

15¢

THE AMERICAN

LEGION

MAGAZINE

SEE PAGE 14



RUSSIA'S
BIG
BLUFF

DECEMBER 1953



Remember in December ... America's Finest Gift Whiskey

Memory course for shoppers: "December reminds me of Christmas. Christmas reminds me of snow. Snow reminds me of ice. Ice reminds me of highballs. Highballs remind me of 7 Crown, America's finest gift whiskey! And that reminds me to give it to those on my list who appreciate the finest!"

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SEAGRAM'S 7 CROWN. BLENDED WHISKEY. 86.8 PROOF. 65% GRAIN NEUTRAL SPIRITS. SEAGRAM DISTILLERS CORPORATION, N. Y.



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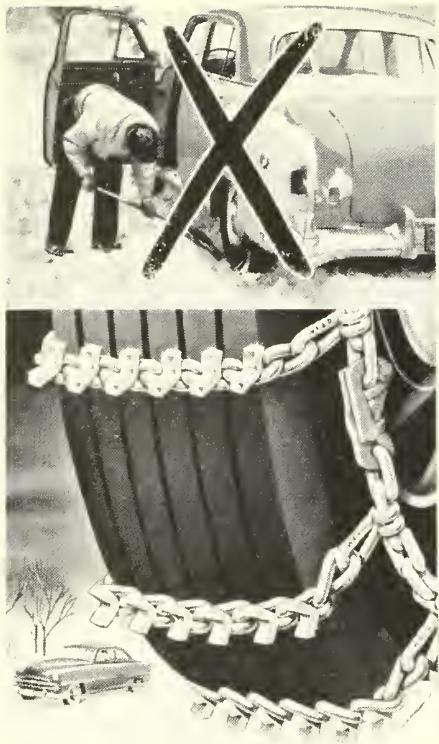
And all the while you'll be protecting your engine from the harmful effects of "knock." Yes—there's nothing like a tankful of "Ethyl" gasoline to make driving the pleasure it should be!

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WEED V-Bar Chains are made intentionally better... Safer on snow and ice

• American Chain & Cable Company, Inc., Bridgeport, Conn. In Canada: Dominion Chain Company, Ltd., Niagara Falls, Ont.



**WEED V-BAR
TIRE CHAINS**



THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE



Cover by JAMES BINGHAM

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FOR LESS THAN 8¢ A PACK, PROVIDE LUCKIES FOR OUR ARMED FORCES

in Korea and Service Hospitals and Veterans in V. A. Hospitals

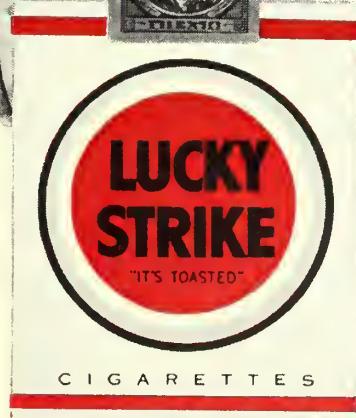


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LUCKIES TASTE BETTER!

Cleaner, Fresher, Smoother!



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Provide as many cases as you like for the service group of your choice. Send today for your Lucky Strike order blank. Just fill out the coupon below and mail to: The American Tobacco Company, 111 Fifth Ave., New York 3, N. Y.

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Please send me Lucky Strike order blank(s) with which I may provide TAX-FREE Luckies by the case for shipment to:
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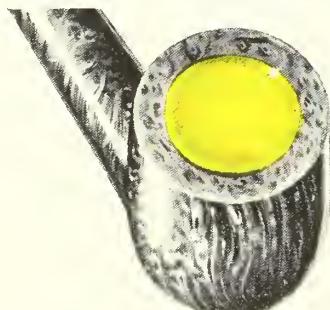
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**"Cake"
not wood
mellows
your
smoke**

**• and the
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cakes Yello-Bole
imported briar far faster
than any pipe at any price!**



**The yellow in Yello-Bole is real honey
—and honey cakes faster!** This great Yello-Bole exclusive builds up "cake" from the first puff . . . holds the cake fast to fine imported briar. One pipeful and you're smoking cool and sweet. No break-in. *No tongue sting!* It's the pipe that takes the cake!

PROOF? Yello-Bole is the world's
largest selling pipe, BY FAR!

YELLO-BOLE



Sound Off!



RESPECT FOR THE DEAD

Sir: I was at Martinsburg, W. Va., last fall when the body of a soldier was taken from the car, evidently for reburial. The flag-draped coffin was unloaded onto the truck on the platform, and wheeled into the shed. Not a single person was there to meet it—not a hat was lifted while the casket was wheeled into the shed, and until I protested, packages were being loaded onto the same truck. It was necessary to show my credentials as Service Officer and threaten to raise the roof to get the other parcels unloaded from the truck and the truck wheeled into the baggage room pending the arrival of someone.

Edgar P. Paulsen
Lehighton, Pa.



A RACER'S TROUBLES

Sir: Thank you for the article *Stock Car Racing Proves What?* As an owner of a stock car I might add to James C. Jones' article that a stock car: (1) gets your neighbors to hate you; (2) gives you ulcers; (3) makes you go broke; (4) makes you stay up until 3 A.M. getting your car in shape so you can race, only to have the car blow up on the second lap; (5) has relatives give you that "I told you so" routine. But all in all I wouldn't give up being a stock car owner. While it provides a lot of headaches, it really provides a lot of pleasure for racing fans.

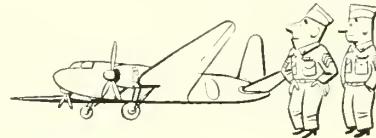
G. L. Trippon
Aurora, Ill.

GOOD AND BAD

Sir: When veterans get together they relive war days and the pattern is always the same—picking out the cities that were good to them when they were in service and the ones that were not. The former are lauded and you would be surprised how it has paid off for those communities because of the good will shown to the vets, and how much harm has been done to

communities by people in their midst who pushed the veterans around. My nomination for the best—Chicago and Milwaukee.

Edwin Huehl
Detroit



NICE PEOPLE

Sir: I'd like to commend Post 24, Rock Springs, Wyoming. We were forced down at a landing strip about ten miles out of Rock Springs with one engine out on our C-47 on December 8, 1952. That evening another sergeant and myself visited the Post there and never have I felt more welcome in a strange place in my life. The people just took over and made it impossible to remain a stranger. They offered to give us a place to spend the night and in general went out of their way to make us feel at home. We were on our way home after spending two and a half years in Korea and Japan and it certainly made one feel good to know that the people back home were backing and thinking of us all the time.

Gerald L. Chafin
Morgantown, W. Va.

WHAT'S WRONG

Sir: Our country is rapidly being bled to death for the benefit of deadbeat countries in Europe, while at the same time subversives and do-gooder eggheads in this country ballyhoo and eulogize the United Nations. The idea that the UN can prevent war is too foolish to be called an idea. Even the government of the U.S.A. failed to prevent one of the bloodiest of civil wars between its own States.

Name Withheld
El Paso, Texas

WITH APOLOGIES

Sir: William A. Ulman's article *What Will You Do With Those Added Years?* in your August issue contains a fantastic misstatement concerning our company and the Western Electric Company. The statement is as follows:

(Continued on page 58)

Writers must give name and address. Name withheld if requested. So many letters are being received it is not possible to promise answers. Keep your letters short. Address: Sound Off, The American Legion Magazine, 580 Fifth Ave., New York 36, N.Y.

Of course it has its imitators... What really great product hasn't?

The Zenith Super Trans-Oceanic remains the one twelve-year proved world-wide portable, and it costs less than any of them.

Twelve years ago, Zenith created a new kind of radio. It was born of an experience in developing short wave equipment that started back in 1923. It was called the Zenith Trans-Oceanic.

Compact, portable, self-powered, it could get every country in the world. It would work on AC or DC . . . inside steel buildings, on decks, in trains or in planes. It would perform with incredible dependability under conditions where every other radio failed.

The world took this new kind of radio to its heart. It became the inevitable companion of explorers, diplomats, heads of state, foreign language students, sportsmen, yachtsmen, men

in service. It is owned by more of the world's great men than any other like product.

Over the years, the Zenith Super Trans-Oceanic has kept pace with all advances in the science of Radionics.

By today, naturally, its success has spawned a host of imitators.

Don't let them fool you. Look, first, and last, at the Zenith Super Trans-Oceanic. It is the only 12-year-proved world-wide portable. It costs you less than imitations, \$124.25*. Today, no other radio of this kind gives you all the features Zenith puts into its official trans-world portable.

The genuine costs you less. Why pay more for imitations?

ASK ANY ZENITH OWNER



Backed by 35 Years of Leadership in Radionics Exclusively
ALSO MAKERS OF FINE HEARING AIDS
ZENITH RADIO CORPORATION, Chicago 39, Illinois

Zenith Powerized Features:

- Long Distance chassis tunes you in on a wealth of programs from the 72 countries broadcasting on International Short Wave.
- Tropically treated against humidity, to prevent loss of sensitivity.
- Only Zenith has the patented detachable Wavemagnet® and 5-ft. Pop-up Waverod® antennas which increase the range of Standard Broadcast and Short Wave reception.
- Receives ship-to-ship and ship-to-shore phone conversations, Marine and Weather reports, and amateur broadcasts as well as popular programs from all over the U. S.
- Zenith-built Alnico 5 speaker for "big set" tone. Push-button band selection.
- Zenith's exclusive Radiorgon® tone control gives you choice of 16 different tonal combinations.
- Works on AC, DC or long-life batteries.

One of these battery-operated portables is as necessary in your home as a flashlight in case of power failure caused by air raid or other emergency.

*Manufacturer's suggested retail price, not including batteries. Slightly higher in far West and South.



Now Even Better! Invest More in Savings Bonds

COPR. 1953



Christmas is a Little Doll

Soon it will be the night before Christmas. And many an excited little girl will be nestled all snug in her bed, to dream of sleigh bells and reindeer and a cuddly doll beneath a tree.

Santa Claus is such a jolly fellow that he wouldn't want to miss anyone. But it could happen and that would be very sad indeed.

So again this year, telephone girls in many communities will be helping Santa get around. For weeks they have been spending their spare time dressing dolls for little girls.

Throughout the country thousands of other Bell System men and women are collecting baskets of food, candy, toys and dollars for those less fortunate than themselves.

And remembering their co-workers in the armed services with the letters and holiday packages that are

so extra-special when a young fellow is far away from home.

To all of you, from all of us in the telephone business, we send best wishes for a Merry Christmas.



SANTA'S HELPERS Some of the dolls from telephone employees in just one city. Rag dolls, fancy dolls, teddy bears and pandas—dolls of every kind and shape—to help put joy into many a Christmas stocking.

BELL TELEPHONE SYSTEM

LOCAL to serve the community. NATIONWIDE to serve the nation.
6 • THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE • DECEMBER 1953



Editor's Corner



SHOPPING HINT

WALTER ULRICH, red boss of East Germany, has given the word to the happy slaves of the Soviet there that they will be expected to meet higher production quotas—or else.

This comes just in time for the happy holiday season. Now you can be assured of a plentiful supply of such things as Christmas tree ornaments, cameras, binoculars, shotguns and other products manufactured in the Soviet Zone of Germany.

Full of the Christmas spirit, the Soviet Politburo and Good Old Uncle Georgi Malenkov want to be sure that the decadent bourgeoisie and warmongering capitalists aren't deprived of the opportunity to buy merchandise made under the eyes of Soviet commissars.

Certain importers and dealers in this country feel the same way about it. They too want everyone to be happy this Christmas, whether they live in the Kremlin or just off Main Street. And of course they don't mind being made happy themselves, since there's money to be made out of such Soviet products.

So, to bring a smile to the face of Good Old Uncle Georgi, Good Old Uncle Andrei Vishinsky, Good Old Uncle Walter Ulbricht, and every Uncle Commissar, shop carefully. Make sure that what you buy bears the (figurative) hammer and sickle and red star. Otherwise you might find your Christmas spending money going to American manufacturers.

VICTIMIZED TEACHERS

If you are interested in the plight of our public school teachers we'd suggest that you read a new book, *Quackery in the Public Schools*, written by Albert Lynd, published by Atlantic-Little, Brown & Co.

As everyone knows, a teacher's lot is usually not an easy one, and few communities properly reward their teachers, salary-wise. What is not generally known is the way in which teachers are victimized by "one of the neatest bureaucratic machines ever created by any professional group." The quotation is Lynd's, describing a tight little group of "superprofessors" operating in certain leading teachers' colleges.

The book shows how the "semi-racket" operates. The "superprofs" set up teaching courses. Before a person can teach he has to buy a certain amount of this Kultur from these pundits. After he becomes

a teacher he has to keep coming back for more of their mental merchandise. If he doesn't, he is stymied in his job and salary. To make the operation even more reprehensible, the "superprofessors" are also super-personnel agents, serving as a clearing house for the best jobs in teaching. It may reasonably be assumed that their eager cash customers are not forgotten when there are plums to be handed out.

However, the book is not entirely grim. It becomes amusing when the author discusses some of the windbags who peddle The New Education, the current alias for Progressive Education. The book becomes downright hilarious when he quotes the disciples of Dewey in their strange patois, a curious jargon you might call Kilpatrick-ese.

WHO STRUCK SARAH?

THE cause of academic freedom received a severe setback recently when porters, janitors and other custodial employees walked off the job at Sarah Lawrence College. This is the oh-so-liberal ladies' seminary in Yonkers, N. Y., where the distinguished educator Harold Taylor holds forth when he isn't talking before various ladies' clubs. Sarah Lawrence has also been of more than passing interest to Congressional investigators, as you have no doubt read.

Anyway, the A.F. of L. union whose members lug baggage, heat the buildings, wash the dishes and maintain the grounds stopped doing those things just as the girls romped back to the campus after the summer vacation. Crossing the picket lines, the girls and the faculty pitched in and did the chores themselves.

Prexy Taylor just couldn't understand why the union went on strike. He pointed out that he had been real nice to the "menial employees," as the *New York Times* neatly put it, and had even given them a dollar-a-week raise in pay not long before.

Sheer liberalism!

LET THE KIDS KNOW

NOW and then sirens blow, bells clang and everyone takes to cover for an air raid drill. Grownups, of course, know why they have to do this, but do the kids? How about letting them in on the secret—not just that air raid drills are necessary but why they are necessary?

We'd like to suggest that in every classroom, either just before or just after a drill, teachers explain to the youngsters that the drills must be held because of the threat of world communism. We don't recommend this to terrify youngsters, but just to let them know that the Soviet Union hopes to conquer the United States just as it has enslaved many other once great nations.

And while they're at it, teachers might as well inform the children that there are certain people in the United States who are working with the Soviet to this end. This unpleasant fact is usually ignored if not scoffed at in many institutions of higher education.

Advertisement



From where I sit by Joe Marsh

Sheriff's "Push" Pulls a Vote

Was talking with our newly elected Sheriff Williams the other day. He told me about a fellow who stopped by his place real late one night just before election.

"Heard a knock at the door," he said. "Fellow I never saw before. Told me his car went dead down the road and would I give him a shove. My boy, Flip, and I went out to his car with him. We're all set to push when he steps on the starter and the motor turns over.

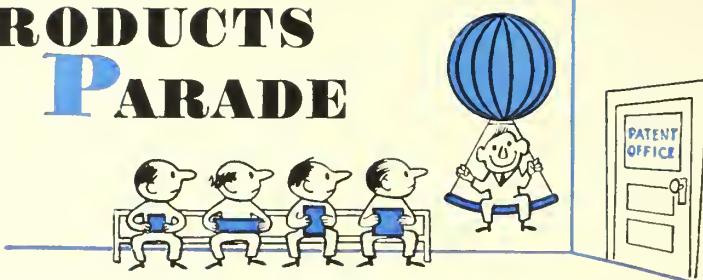
"Flip and I just stood there and the fellow leans out the window and says, 'Just wanted to make sure you're the right man to vote for'."

From where I sit, the fellow who's quick to lend a hand makes any community a better one. But you don't have to run for office to prove you're a good neighbor. One way I know is just to have a little regard for the other fellow. Whether your neighbor likes beer or buttermilk, don't try to push him to your choice. Just give him your "vote of confidence."

Joe Marsh



PRODUCTS PARADE



A sampling of items which are in process of development or are coming on the market. Mention of products in no way constitutes an endorsement of them, since in most cases they are described as represented by manufacturers.

Talking Santa

The kids will get a kick out of an inexpensive novelty, a Santa Claus head which says "Merry Christmas" when the thumbnail is drawn along a tape extending from Santa's mouth. Made of vinyl plastic, the head serves as a sounding board. Made by Borkland Manufacturing Co., Marion, Ind., the toy will sell in department and variety stores for a quarter.

If You Smoke

An attractive china cigarette box, suitable for any home, has an added feature that makes it add up to a good gift—a lighter built into the lid. The lighter is streamlined into a gold band around the lid, dressing up the ivory-colored box. The manufacturer is the American Safety Razor Co., of Brooklyn, and the price is \$9.95.

For the Photo Fan

If you have a photographer in the family there's a new kind of electronic photoflash that will make an ideal Christmas gift for him. This is an extremely compact unit contained in a case only seven inches high and weighing only 27 ounces. Employing an improved circuit this unit uses the new GE flashtube which is capable of more than 10,000 flashes. It works on AC current, and can also be used with a battery pack. Called the Minitron, it is made by Radio Engineering Co., 8 State St., New York City 4. The price is \$59.95.

You Can't Forget

An ingenious way of remembering things has been developed by Joe C. Jenkins, P.O. Box 250, Gainesville, Fla. Called the Can't-Forget-Er system it consists of memos with perforated tabs, a plastic holder for pocket use, and a binder which serves in effect as your idea headquarters. The notes you make are transferred from holder to binder, and the tab is removed when you've taken the necessary action. Price of the outfit is \$8.95.

Ideas Cheap

A year's supply of suggestions and plans for the home craftsman can be had for only a dollar from the Delta Power Tool Division of Rockwell Manufacturing Co., Pittsburgh 8, Pa. All this how-to-do-it help comes in a bi-monthly publication called the Deltagram, worth its cost many times over.

When writing to manufacturers concerning items described here kindly mention that you read about them in The American Legion Magazine

Love That Dog

How about a set of overshoes to protect the paws of your pet? Called Rover Shoes, they are made of rubber, with heavy tread and wrap-around strap for snug fit. Price \$2.95 for a set of four, from Kennel Wear of America, 1317 W. 24th St., Los Angeles 7. Send tracing of dog's front paw.

Home Shooting

Everything for converting your cellar, attic or even your living room into a shooting gallery is contained in a Home Shooting Set being offered by Crosman Arms Co., Fairport, N. Y. The set contains a high-powered pneumatic pistol, holster, steel bell-ringing target, 100 target inserts and a carton of .22 calibre Crosman Super Pells, all for \$14.95.

Highway Navigation

Now you can make sure your car is headed in the right direction without spending a lot of money for a car compass. There's a new low-priced compass called the Air-Way now available selling for only \$2.25, and available from Hugh Clay Pauk, 304 Kansas Ave., Topeka, Kansas.

Album on Your Arm

A new kind of identification bracelet, whose clasp opens up to hold photographs, has been announced by Flex-let, 580 Fifth Ave., New York City 36. An expansion type, this rugged sterling silver bracelet sells for \$14.95, tax included. A more dainty model for women sells for \$13.95.

Car Light

A two-in-one light and cigarette lighter is being offered by Windsor's, McRae, Ga. Their new Spot-Lite plugs into the dashboard lighter outlet, and when you need a light inside the front compartment you switch it on. To make it serve as a cigarette lighter you merely push it in. The price is \$2.25 postpaid.

Belt Watch

A new place to wear a watch has been discovered by George Olton, 242 E. Madison Ave., Collingswood, N. J. The place is on the belt, and the reason is so the watch isn't jarred by golfing or other strenuous sports. The specially designed watch with a double case, and metal loops to slide on the belt, sells for \$29.95.



After all...

It's the Champagne of Bottle Beer

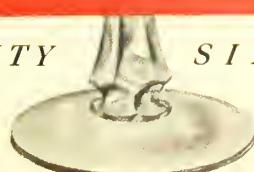
Pocket hits or "Brooklyn's" . . . lucky breaks or hair-tearing taps . . . however your game may go . . . you find rare pleasure in the clattering companionship of the bowling alley and the friendly refreshment that's a traditional part of the game.

And in countless bowling alleys the country over, the fifth frame favorite is golden, gleaming MILLER HIGH LIFE . . . *after all, it's the Champagne of Bottle Beer!*



THE NATIONAL CHAMPION OF QUALITY

SINCE 1855



© Miller Brewing Company
Milwaukee, Wisconsin



"FILL'ER UP"—SOVIET STYLE. Rare photograph shows Russian driver filling own gasoline tank at one of Moscow's 5 "service" stations. Station

attendant offers no service—just collects rationing coupons. Sign on state-owned station doesn't announce a brand of gasoline. It just says: No Smoking.

THIS IS A MOSCOW "SERVICE" STATION

**Unretouched Pictures Show Conditions
Motorists Face Today In Russia**



From behind the Iron Curtain come recent photographs of a typical Moscow "service" station showing what the Russian motorist is up against.

American editors who recently visited Russia report that even the fortunate few who *do* own cars have serious motoring problems. (Only 1 out of every 3,000 Russian families owns a car, while America has more cars than there are families.)

At the few filling stations service is non-existent—gasoline is rationed. Black market gasoline costs \$1.00 a gallon. Travel outside cities is almost impossible if you aren't a party official.

Conditions like these are what you can expect under a system where all industry is controlled by the State and where there is no competition for the motorist's business.

It's far different over here! Americans are used to having many independent service station operators compete for their business by offering them the world's finest oil products at reasonable prices. U. S. gasoline today, for instance, costs about the same as gasoline did in 1925—only the taxes are higher.

This contrast between conditions here and in Russia shows once again how important it is to all of us that America's system of privately-managed industry be continued.

Show your post the dramatic, new motion picture "American Frontier." It's free. Write Oil Industry Information Committee, American Petroleum Institute, 50 W. 50th St., New York 20, N.Y.

◀ **ANOTHER VIEW OF** same "service" station shows Russian motorist's daily problems. Car in foreground has broken down—owner usually must fix it himself. With only 5 filling stations for Moscow's 5 million inhabitants, cars must wait in line.



MAGI *in* BATTLE DRESS

By WILLIAM CHAMBERLAIN

The three men moved across the snow.

A Christmas story that may remind you of another you have heard.

THE CHINESE attack had hit just after midnight—coming in with a screech of horns and a blare of bugles which drifted with an eerie cacophony up to where Easy Company lay. There was a crest here—Hashmark Ridge—and, in front and behind, the ground fell away into steep ravines which were shadowy in the starlight. It was a bad time for Easy Company for a new ROK outfit had given way on the right and presently the company was alone on Hashmark Ridge and the Chinese were cutting it off from the rear.

That was the way that it went through the night and through the next day—which was the day before Christmas—and into the beginning of Christmas Eve. Cold and with a wind which whipped the snow into dancing ghosts so that it was hard to distinguish between those which

were phantoms and those which were the Chinese storming up through the gullies in their padded coats.

As the dusk came down, Captain Edwards—who commanded Easy Company—got a message. It told him that he would abandon Hashmark Ridge after dark and make his way back to where the rest of the battalion waited. Simple orders. A child could understand them but hard orders for Easy Company to obey for they were leaving men—a lot of good men—on Hashmark Ridge. Still, the thing had to be done.

But this is not the story of Easy Company. It is the story of three men who became separated from the rest of the company on that snowy Christmas Eve. Sergeant LeRoy Grimes. Private Willie Hayes. Lieutenant George Carlmark. They had been outposting the left flank

(continued)

Magi in Battle Dress

at the time that orders from battalion had reached Captain Edwards. He had sent a runner to tell them to come in but the runner had never gotten there. A mortar shell had taken care of that.

So, after a while, the three saw the dim shapes of the Chinese filtering past in the snow along the flanks of the little knob where they lay and they began to realize that the rest of Hashmark Ridge was strangely silent. The machine guns and the BAR's no longer yammered over to the right; rifles no longer cracked spitefully in the darkness. And the dim shapes, in padded coats, kept ghosting by like hyenas slipping through the storm.

"It's no good," Carlmark said, keeping his voice low as he beat his hands to warm them. "Either the rest of the company has pulled out or is dead."

"Or prisoners," Sergeant Grimes added. He was a man past forty with the marks of long soldiering laid deeply on him. Lean and tough and a little afraid now. "What do we do, Lieutenant?"

Lieutenant Carlmark rubbed a hand slowly up and down the stock of his carbine and peered off into the darkness. He was half Grimes' age and this business of war was new—too new—to him.

"We can't stay here," he said.

"No," Sergeant Grimes agreed, his voice a little grin.

"Maybe the company is just lying low," Carlmark suggested uncertainly. "Maybe they're holding their fire for some reason."

Sergeant Grimes grunted softly. "Easy Company's holding its fire," he said, "but not along Hashmark Ridge, Lieutenant. I think that we're stuck out here alone like a thumb in a cup of coffee."

Lieutenant Carlmark thought that over for a little while. "Maybe we'd ought to work back along the ridge and see if we can contact them," he said finally. "What do you think?"

"We've got to do something," Sergeant Grimes said.

Private Hayes hadn't been saying anything. He had taken over the BAR when Mike Donelson had gotten a bullet through him when the attack started. In some ways, Private Hayes was tougher than either of his companions although he was barely nineteen and didn't shave regularly yet. Orphan at three. At the Home—a misuse of the word—until he was twelve. Industrial School—a polite name for reform school in the state in which he lived—for a year when he was fifteen. Then, prelim



Before they started, Private Hayes laid a small object beside the woman.

boy, roustabout in a two-bit circus, hobo.

But a good kid. The rest of the men in Easy Company liked him—even Sergeant Grimes. Red-headed and with a grin which was cheerful and impudent. A kid who could raise a laugh when the rest were cold and hungry and wet and tired.

Now he said, "Wonder what I'd be doing if I was back home."

"Hanging up your stocking," Sergeant Grimes said dourly. "Where's home, kid?"

"Chicago, St. Louis, Mobile," Hayes told him. "Any of 'em. It don't matter. You know, I never hung up no stocking in my life. Most of the time when I was a kid I didn't have no stocking to hang up. That's what I like about the

Army. It gives you stockings, anyway."

"You won't hang up one tonight," Grimes said.

"I won't, at that," Private Hayes agreed. "You believe in Santa Claus, Sarge?"

"Sure, I believe in Santa Claus."

Lieutenant Carlmark said, "Cut the talk. Let's go."

They moved out cautiously and the snow was coming down harder now so that it was a white curtain through which they felt their way. The sound of the bugles and the whistles had died down but suddenly a little knot of men, grunting back and forth to each other in Chinese, loomed dimly ahead. They halted suddenly and a burp gun began to stutter, kicking up little white geysers and zinging slugs off the rocks beneath.

Then Hayes' BAR took up its deep-mouth song and the group in front of the three melted away into the night—except for the few who made untidy rag bundles on the snow.

"The company's pulled back all right," Grimes said hoarsely. "We better get out ourselves! Those birds'll be back!"

They left the ridge and went down a gully, stumbling in the snow and sliding across the buried rocks. Branches of the leafless scrub raked at their faces; and fallen trees, shattered by the shelling of the past weeks, caught at their ankles. The gulch twisted away to enter a larger gulch and they went down that, moving cautiously through the snow which came down in soft, feathery flakes.

After a quarter of an hour, Grimes—who had been scouting a little in the lead—stopped and called a low warning. The other two came up to stand with him while they listened. Then, through the snow's curtain, they caught the faint gleam of fires ahead.

"Chinks," Grimes whispered hoarsely. "We've run into a whole mess of 'em. Regrouping, maybe. Taking on chow."

"Maybe they'd like guests for dinner," Hayes whispered.

"Shut up," Grimes told him but his voice wasn't angry. "We sure can't get through this way, Lieutenant."

"Doesn't look like it," Lieutenant Carlmak said, despondency heavy in his voice. "And we can't stay here. What do you think, Sergeant? Go back? Try to get around them?"

"If I could think I probably wouldn't be in the Army," Grimes replied sourly. "I'd be back in Fresno. You're an officer, Lieutenant. I guess it's up to you to say the word."

He was sorry that he had said that, Sergeant Grimes thought then. Hell, the Lieutenant was just a kid, scared like the rest of them were scared. He didn't know what to do but who the devil did when you found yourself in the middle of a bunch of Chinks on Christmas Eve? He started to say something like that . . . didn't do it.

For his words had done a strange thing to Lieutenant George Carlmak who stood there silently for a long moment, turning them over in his mind. "You're an officer, Lieutenant." That was what Sergeant Grimes had said. What Sergeant Grimes had meant was: *They didn't put the bars on you just because they liked your rosy cheeks, Bud. When you accepted those bars, you had to accept the responsibility that goes along with them.* That was about the way of it.

And Sergeant Grimes was right, Lieutenant Carlmak thought. Somebody had to give the orders. This

wasn't a soviet. You didn't vote on things in this army.

For some reason the idea warmed him a little. He thought back to that day—not too long ago—when he had stood with the rest in the Kansas sunshine and had repeated the oath. Not just words—that oath. It meant something. But he had had to come up here to Hashmark Ridge to really learn what that something was.

He squared his shoulders and a new note had come into his voice now. A thing which was firm—more sure. Sergeant Grimes noted that with satisfaction. It was something that even an old soldier could take hold of and grip and feel better about.

"We'll go back and try to work our way around them," Carlmak said. "It's our best chance, I think."

They struggled back to the crest of the ridge; faded down the far side into a gulch no different from the one that they had left. It became another gulch—a maze of gulches—and presently they were lost. Four times in an hour they had to detour widely to avoid voices which came—muffled but jabbering like magpies—out of the snow and the darkness ahead of them.

Carlmak halted them finally with that new crispness still in his voice. "No use going on this way," he said. "We could run into anything. We'll hole up until the snow stops."

Sergeant Grimes grunted, "Makes sense. We're as well off here as we'd be any place else, I guess."

"Except back in Fresno," Hayes said.

They squatted in the shelter of a little outcrop, shivering as they pulled their battle jackets more closely about them. The night had suddenly gotten quiet except for the far-off bicker of artillery fire; the occasional crump of a mortar round.

They didn't talk much and Lieutenant Carlmak started to wonder how it would be at home now, Christmas Eve! He had had only one Christmas Eve with Cathy so far—never a one at all with the little Cathy who had arrived after he had come out here.

His Cathy would have hung up a wee stocking in the apartment by now, he guessed; would have started to decorate the tree. Something stabbed sharply at Lieutenant George Carlmak as he remembered that other Christmas Eve.

Cathy standing there beside the tree in his father's big house in Evanston. Cathy with her eyes shining happily and her hair making a soft halo about her face. And his father standing nearby, a glass in his hand and his eyes proud.

Lieutenant George Carlmak put those thoughts angrily away. They had no place here.

Hayes said then, "Kind of funny to think that this is Christmas Eve, ain't it? Holly and tinsel and people singin' *Silent Night* and things like that."

"We haven't got none of that here," Sergeant Grimes said. "You want to sing a Christmas carol? Forget it, boy," and Hayes lapsed into moody silence.

IT WAS AN HOUR LATER WHEN LIEUTENANT CARLMARK SAID, "SNOW'S ABOUT STOPPED. WE BETTER GO ON AGAIN. EITHER OF YOU KNOW WHICH WAY IS FRONT AND WHICH WAY IS REAR? I DON'T."

Sergeant Grimes shook his head. "WE TWISTED AND TURNED SO MUCH IN THAT DAMN SNOW THAT NOW I DON'T KNOW MY LEFT HAND FROM MY RIGHT. MAYBE WE BETTER JUST KEEP ON GOIN' DOWN HILL—THAT OUGHT TO BRING US OUT SOMEPLACE, I GUESS."



They started out again, floundering through the new drifts and stumbling in and out of the scrub. Starlight lay palely ahead of them now—a faint radiance which caressed a land covered with a white softness. Twice they tried to turn in the direction in which they guessed the American lines lay and twice they were turned back by parties of Chinese, jabbering in their padded coats. Then, at last, the hills fell away into a valley through which a dark stream ran.

A wide valley. Carlmak halted them there, crouching in the shadows while they looked down. Excitement suddenly gripped Sergeant Grimes and he reached out to touch Carlmak's shoulder.

"I know this place, Lieutenant," he whispered. "Anyway, I think I do. It's the Chipyong Valley and our line bends north here. There ought to be GI's on those hills across that little river!"

"And on this side of the river?" Carlmak asked softly.

"We don't have to guess about that," Sergeant Grimes answered in a sour voice. "We know. Chinks. Lots of 'em."

"I wish that I had never heard that word," Hayes said, spitting into the snow. "Before I came here I always thought that Chinks were people who ran restaurants and laundries."

"You know better now," Sergeant Grimes said. "Do we go across the valley, Lieutenant?"

"We go across," Lieutenant Carlmak answered soberly. "What have we got
(Continued on page 54)



Vishinsky at the UN
in a typical pose.

RUSSIA'S BIG BLUFF

The Soviet controls a lot of land and people but otherwise she is a second-rate nation whose greatest asset is our fear of her "invincibility."

By HAROLD LORD VARNEY

ARE WE panicking ourselves into an unreal and politically dangerous attitude toward Soviet Russia?

The question rankles as our alarmists fill the atmosphere with their incessant talk about a Russia ready and willing right now to unleash World War III. All major American foreign policies since 1945 have been framed in the shadow of this fixed idea. All the sick retreats and placations and compromises, *vis-à-vis* Russia, which we have made since V-J Day have been defended by this thesis of a prepared Russia which, if angered, was ready to spring with stupendous might upon the Free World.

And the terrifying thought is that none of us has the haziest notion whether or not the thesis is true. America is gambling its whole future security upon the hazard of an unconfirmed guess.

We have just concluded a humiliating truce in Korea for a war which, on form, we should have easily won. The thing which stalemated us in Korea was not North Korean fanaticism nor Red Chinese numbers. It was the haunting fear, which palsied our hand at every decisive moment, that Soviet Russia was ready to fall upon us.

Because we believed this, with an almost hypnotic unreason, we and our allies halted General MacArthur at the Yalu River, when a landing operation beyond the river, accompanied by an all-out bombing of Sinuiju, Antung and Mukden, would have put China out of the war. Because we believed this, American naval and air forces were stopped from clamping an effective blockade upon Red China, including the Pohai Sea. Because we believed this, our air forces were restrained from dropping the atom bomb upon Chinese staging and transportation centers, a step which would have paralyzed the Chinese "volunteer" forces in North Korea.

And thus a war which could have ended in ringing military triumph for America, with heightened American prestige throughout Asia, has been forfeited because of this obsession with Russia.

If we have guessed wrong on this thesis—and there are staggering evidences that we have—then the whole course of American foreign policy since 1945, from Potsdam to Panmunjom, has been a tissue of blunders.

No informed person seriously questions that the Russian



Intelligence experts warned that Russian help would have dire consequences but at Yalta our diplomats pursued a strange course which has had the results predicted.

menace is a hideous reality — a reality which darkens the whole American future. Where we differ is on the show-down date. As we shall show, all indications point to 1970 or thereabouts as the Armageddon. The show-down will come when Russia, having engorged 600,000,000 new subjects, will have integrated its bloated Russian-Chinese-satellite empire into a Eurasian powerhouse, manned by a technically trained working population and interlinked with modernized transportation. It will come when the vast unexploited resources of Siberia and Red China have been unlocked for Russia's war industries. It is difficult to see how this can be consummated in less than 20 years. When it is achieved, unless we have made equivalent progress, the United States will indeed be in desperate danger.

But this is quite a different thing from affirming that Russia is ready and prepared to fight now. And yet, in the name of that illusion, we have successively acquiesced in Russian seizure of Poland, East Germany, Czechoslovakia, China and now, apparently, North Korea to "avert World War III." The irony is that we have made these retreats at the precise moment when our power was at its maximum, and we alone were ready for atom warfare.

What is behind this national fixation on Russia?

An oversimplification would be to ascribe it to Soviet psychological warfare. This has been a factor. Certainly, if Russia's psychological staff had started out to decoy America, it could not have hit upon a better trap than to implant the belief that Russia was ready to fight. While we prepared feverishly for war in 1953, we would take our sights off the real target, which is war with a much greater Russia in 1970. The creation of an emergency mood in America would keep us permanently off-balance, and would preoccupy us with costly and indecisive holding operations throughout the globe.

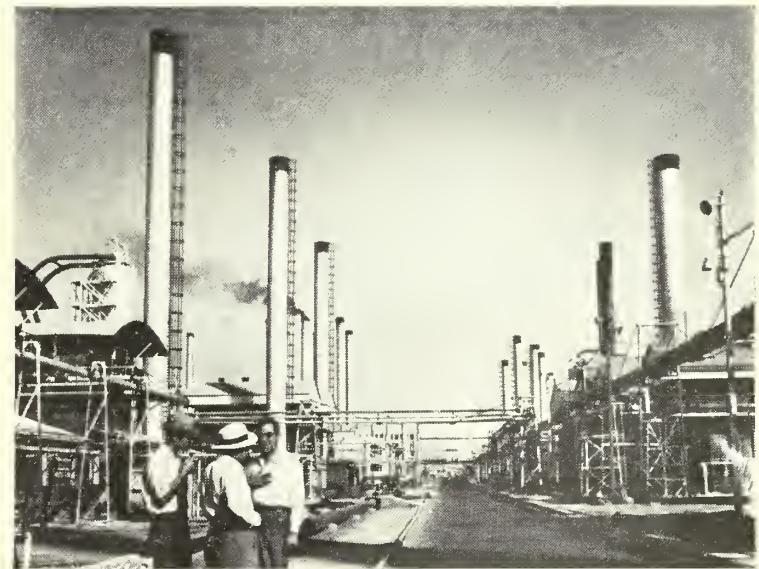
But Russian propaganda could have made little impress upon the American mind if the idea which it has been selling since 1945 had not coincided with a deep American mood. In a sense, we have mesmerized ourselves into the belief in Russia's super-strength. American statesmen, tortured by indecision, have found in the Russian ogre an easy rationalization of their own unwillingness to take risks. By dangling the Russian immediate peril before a peace-craving American public, they have been able to get popular support for a series of indefensible appeasements. Few Americans have realized that the dark warnings of a Russia armed to the teeth which have come to them from both press and Pentagon have been based



If the Kremlin really dared to fight, we gave her all the excuse she needed when we foiled her blockade of Berlin by running an air lift.



Russia has long eyed the Dardanelles with greed, but in 1947 we served notice that we were backing Turkey and the Red Bear backed down.



In 1945 the Kremlin moved against Iran, to get that country's oil. In 1946 the U.S. and Britain ordered her to get out and she got out.

upon nothing more substantial than guesswork and apprehension.

A humiliating instance was Yalta. A great body of American opinion allowed itself to be convinced early in 1945 that Russian help was needed to win America's war with Japan. Against this was the fact that Japan, as early as January, 1945, had put out feelers for surrender. After Yalta, but a full four months before Russia's eventual entrance, some 50 specialists in War Department G-2, under command of the late Col. Joseph A. Michela, made a searching study of the advisability of Russian intervention (*Continued on page 50*)



The training and massing of millions of men, supplying of mountains of equipment and years of planning culminated on Omaha Beach, June 6, 1944. The campaigns — difficult and important as they were — in North Africa, Sicily and Italy were

only preliminaries to the invasion of the Continent. The Germans were confident, however, that they could prevent any landing in Europe and their defenses were indeed formidable barriers for the Allied Forces to overcome.

THEN & NOW

FRANCE, GERMANY and ITALY EIGHT YEARS AFTER WW 2

Salerno marked the first toehold in Europe for American and British forces. On September 9, 1943, the Allies fought their way ashore to begin the long Italian campaign. Nearly driven off the beach in the early fighting, the Fifth and Eighth

Armies by October had established a battle line north of Naples extending across the Italian peninsula. Foggia, and its group of air fields, was part of the territory captured and it provided an air base closer to Nazi factories and oil fields.

CROWDED SALERNO 1943

ALONE AND QUIET 1953



NORMANDY BEACH 1944



A rough field grave of an American who died in Normandy. A permanent cemetery in St. Laurent now holds the bodies of those who died on Omaha Beach, where the 1st and 29th Divisions assaulted the "Atlantic Wall."

UTAH BEACH TODAY



America's industrial might poured forth ships, planes, tanks, guns and shells. Behind the infantry spearheads, the ships of the invading fleet dumped the equipment on the beaches. Today, nine years later, salvage crews still find the debris floating ashore or buried in the sand.

THE LAND WAR in Europe which began in September, 1943 at Salerno and ended less than two years later at Rheims, France, in May 1945, wreaked more damage than the four long years of WWI.

Modern warfare with its mechanized forces, air bombardment and tremendous armies razed France, Italy and Germany.

Today, eight years after the last gun was fired, Europe is rebuilding the cities, farms and historic buildings which were once its pride. American money

and equipment—both government and private contributions—have helped in the work.

No amount of reconstruction, however, will completely eliminate the scars. Our photographer, going back to the scene of the struggles, found that at every point some trace of the GIs' fight could still be found.

The contrast between the forces of 1918 and 1945 is best shown in their size and organization. The AEF by November, 1918 had formed but two armies. For the invasion of Europe,

Groups of Armies were commanded by General Eisenhower and in addition he controlled Air Forces capable of mounting thousand-plane raids against the Axis.

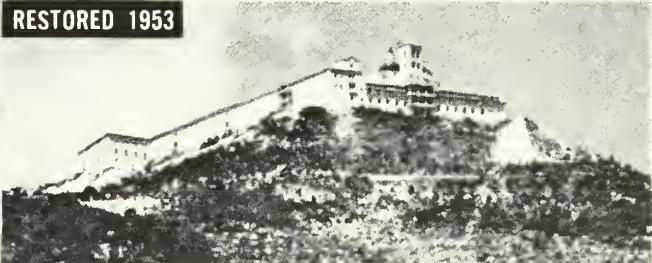
Science and the equipment it designed; the factories and their output; the plans of the generals of every country all contributed to the eventual victory, but as always it was the foot soldier who fought and won the war.

In these pictures you can see the job he did.

ALL 1953 PHOTOS BY ANGELA CALOMIRIS

MONTE CASSINO AFLAME 1944

RESTORED 1953

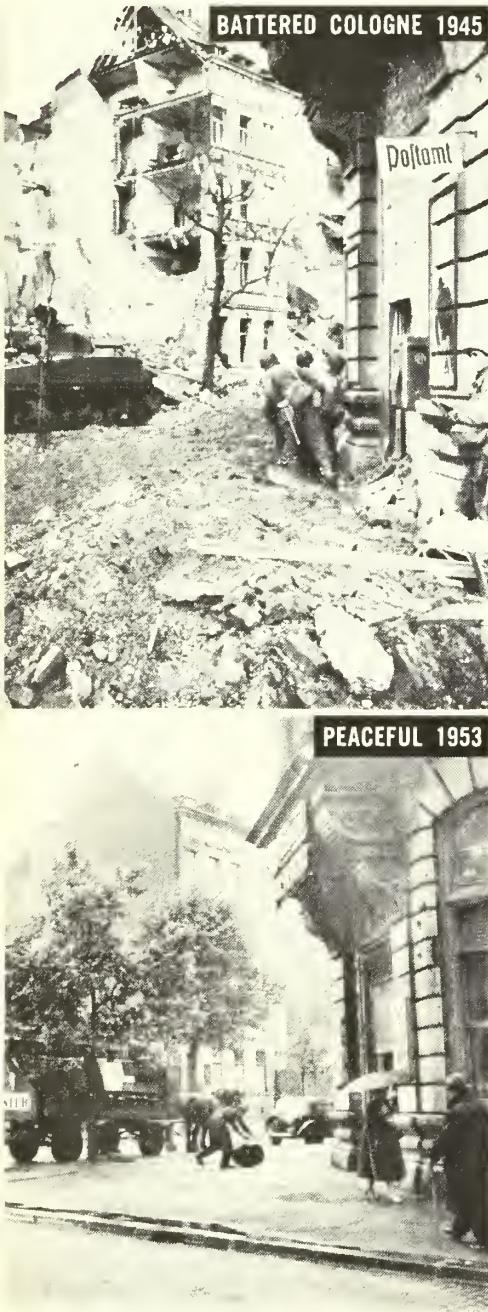


The historic Benedictine Abbey of Monte Cassino dominated the approach to Rome. Used by the Germans as an observation post, it completely stopped the Allies' northward offensive in January, 1944. A full German division of experienced and battle-hardened troops held the hill in the face of tank, infantry and air attacks. The Abbey itself was reduced to a pile of rubble which made still easier its defense.

continued

THEN & NOW

FRANCE, GERMANY AND ITALY EIGHT YEARS AFTER WW2



The early winter of 1944 brought the war to German soil for the first time in three wars. Untouched in 1870, and again in 1918, the land west of the Rhine was invaded by the 6th, 12th and 21st Army Groups. The Germans fighting now to defend their homeland fought for every city and contested every point. Cologne was battered as the Germans, along a 400-mile front, were pushed to the Rhine River, which had not been crossed by an invader since Napoleon's time.

ST. LO HEDGEROWS 1944



Once securely ashore, the Allied plans called for a wide sweeping movement south from the Normandy peninsula and then east toward Germany. In July the Allies moved to get the positions from which to launch their offensive. Determined German resistance behind the densely woven hedgerows caused 60,000 Allied casualties in three weeks. Finally, on July 25 the breakout at St. Lo began.

DEAD AT WORMS 1945



All along the Rhine, the Germans destroyed the bridges. They hoped to re-group their battered armies behind the river and stop the Allied advance which threatened to become a race across German soil. Typical of the crossings was the one at the historic German city of Worms. The American soldier above was one of the many casualties suffered by the assault forces gathered to attack the last German defense line.

NEW BRIDGE 1953



ST. VITH IN THE BULGE 1944



SHELL HOLES GONE 1953



The Bulge, as the last German offensive was called, came in mid-December, 1944. The First Army took the impact of three German Armies as they gambled their last reserves in an attempt to breach the Allied front. Major General McAuliffe answered the German

demand for surrender with one word — "Nuts!" As the British on the north and the Americans on the south struck hard at the German flanks, the weather cleared and the Air Forces began their destruction of the panzer armies inside the Bulge.

REMAGEN BRIDGE 1945



BRIDGE GONE 1953



In March, 1945 the guarantee of victory came when the Remagen bridge was captured. Weakened but still standing, the bridge gave the American First Army a foothold on the east bank of the Rhine. Five Divisions crossed before the bridge fell and by

then the engineers had thrown a pontoon bridge across the river. To stop the advance at Remagen the Germans had to weaken themselves elsewhere and the Allies quickly exploited the situation. By April 1st, seven Allied Armies were east of the Rhine.

GERMAN DEAD, STAVELOT 1944



QUIET NOW 1953



Stavelot in the Bulge was the last battle for this German soldier. One of the 90,000 casualties suffered by the forces under von Rundstedt, his fall also marked the end of the German hope for victory. The nazi dream of world-wide conquest with their panzer armies dissolved into a piece-meal defense of their own country, which was in ruins.

Basketball hasn't learned ITS LESSON

College basketball is still playing with fire despite the warnings of collegiate investigators and advisers.

By BILL MILLER

THREE YEARS AGO next month college basketball was dealt a vicious uppercut with the disclosure of the acceptance of bribes by two players. The blow sent the sport reeling on its heels. But before the end of 1951 had rolled around, basketball was to experience a series of even more damaging blows.

More than two dozen players from such basketball powerhouses as Kentucky, Bradley, Toledo, and four colleges of metropolitan New York—City College, N.Y.U., L.I.U. and Manhattan—admitted “throwing” games or “shaving points” for the “glory of the gamblers” and money.

These ugly revelations gave basketball the dubious honor of having sport’s worst scandal, overshadowing even baseball’s infamous Black Sox shocker of 1919.

Two full basketball seasons have passed since and another is currently underway. What, in a concrete way, has basketball done to ward off the possibility of another such black mark? Has it learned its lesson? As the old Happy Warrior, Al Smith, used to remark: “Let’s look at the record.”

Actually, the guiding officials of basketball and those interested in the sport spotted its deficiencies and drawbacks almost immediately after the eruption. But one would hardly call this foresight. It would have been had they acted immediately after several rumbles of bribe scandals had been aired in the four years previous to 1951. Among these were the Brooklyn College “bought” players in 1946 and the attempted bribery of Dave Shapiro of George Washington University in 1949.

Shocked into definite action by the mushrooming scandal of 1951, the National Collegiate Athletic Association, the ruling athletic body for more than 300 colleges and universities, issued a report by its Council in March that year which listed recommendations designed to curb any future scandal outbreaks.



In a New York Police station in 1951 were, left to right: Ed Warner, Al Roth of CCNY; Harvey Schaff, NYU; a detective; Salvatore Sollazzo, bending down; Robert Sabbatini, head down, and Ed Roman, CCNY. The players were booked on bribery charges while Sabbatini was booked as a material witness in the case.

It urged among other things:

1. Member institutions should hold their athletic competition on campus fields and in campus buildings.
2. Where such facilities are not adequate, it is recommended that institutions play only on fields or in buildings over which the collegiate institution has effective control, management and supervision.
3. Much of the increased emphasis on the sport has been brought about by overlong seasons. There is nothing wrong with intercollegiate athletics that a release of the pressures upon it will not cure.

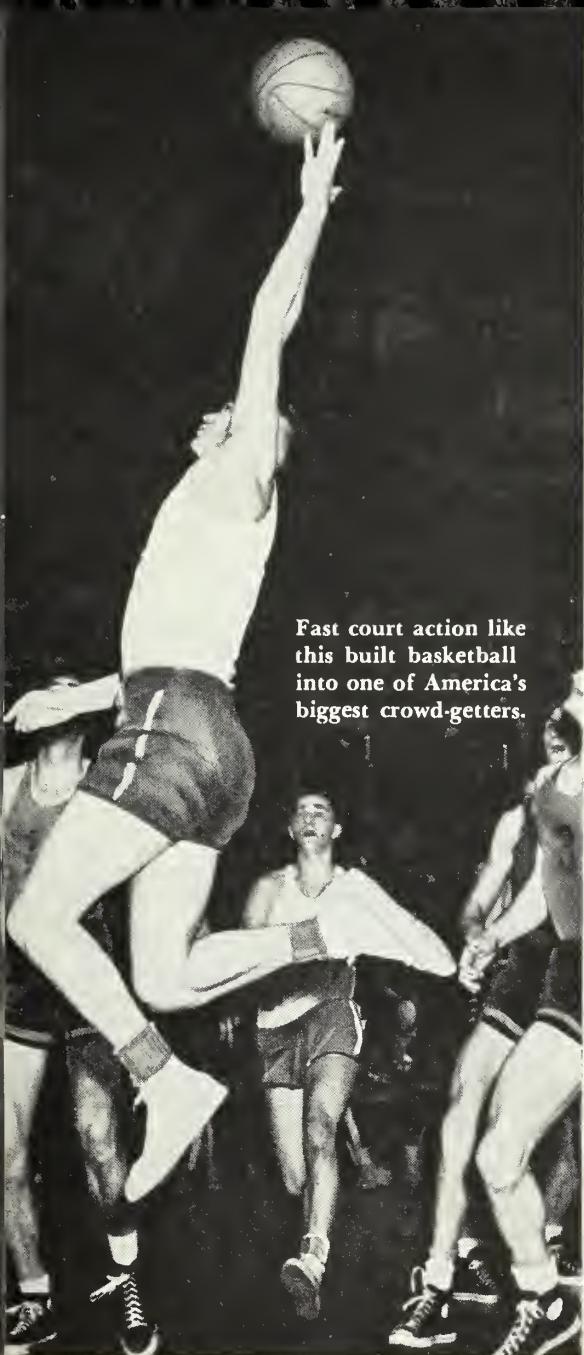
The first two points were obviously aimed at the “whipping boy” of basketball—Madison Square Garden. When the scandals broke, cries of anguish and rage were directed at sinful old New York which had corrupted their boys’ character. Many schools cancelled their Garden dates. Yet for years before, these same colleges, coaches, directors and

alumni had seen nothing wrong in playing in the Garden and had been anxious to gain national status by so doing.

This “unwholesome” atmosphere paid big checks. And even now, while the Garden has curtailed its basketball program, the big arenas in Chicago, St. Louis, San Francisco, Kansas and Los Angeles still offer college basketball.

The NCAA which formulated item two above has itself scheduled its regional post-season tourneys in public arenas such as the Chicago Stadium and Kansas City’s Municipal Auditorium. The facilities of almost any of the Big Ten field houses and many other Midwest colleges would be adequate for the crowds that witnessed the contests in public arenas in 1952 and 1953. If NCAA won’t follow its own recommendations, why should the schools?

Point three is without a doubt the



Fast court action like this built basketball into one of America's biggest crowd-getters.

athletes to the directive: "Please list any benefits or detriments which you believe are derived from participation in football bowl games, NCAA championships, Conference meets or tournaments, or Invitational meets or tournaments." The following statements are among the recurring detrimental answers given:

1. Provide opportunity for gambling and bribery.
2. Too much emphasis on winning.
3. Too commercial.
4. Interferes with academic activities.
5. Extends season too long.
6. Too much emotional strain.
7. Does not decide a true champion as the best team can fold up under pressure.
8. Places too much stress on sports at expense of education.

These are the replies of the athletes, the people most directly affected by the participation in the events. Their answers, frank and to-the-point, should make college athletic officials think twice about extra events on their schedules. Judging from the increase in basketball tournaments, they haven't even thought once.

The foregoing recommendations and others made by the NCAA later have done little to clear the beclouded atmosphere surrounding the sport. Primarily because the NCAA prides itself in Article III, Section 2 of its constitution which reads: "The control and responsibility for the conduct of intercollegiate athletics shall be exercised by the institution

itself, and, in the case of institutions having a membership in a regional athletic conference, by such conference."

This, of course, is the ideal, but is it practical? Here's a segment of a report made for the NCAA Eighth District (embracing California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Nevada and the Territory of Hawaii) by John B. Hurlbut of Stanford University just *this year*: "There seems to be general agreement that the basic responsibility for the solution of the athletic problem rests upon the individual institution. But bold statesmanship by the individual institution is difficult when the institution is a member of a conference and a *strong position independently pursued will drastically weaken its competitive position*. Also, it may be impossible if boards of regents and trustees are unwilling to financially underwrite

most flouted of all. Seasons are just as long and, in fact, longer with a new "gimmick" called the Christmas Tournament. Last season there were no less than 22 of these tourneys. There doesn't seem to be much reason to stage one except for the added revenue they provide. They certainly don't build character in young men by keeping them away from home at Christmas time.

Added to the 27 other tourneys and three big national events — NCAA, NAIB and NIT — in post-season play you have not less than 52 tournaments each year, making football's bowl games small potatoes by comparison.

Along these lines, the NCAA requested of its Extra Events Committee in 1952 that a survey be taken on post-season college athletic events. One of the more interesting sections of their report was a summary of answers by

an athletic program. The sad truth seems to be that many institutions appear to be either satisfied with the status quo or unable to cope with it." The pressure to win, plus commercialism, based on this report by a NCAA official, still form an integral part of the college athletic program. These evils haven't been eliminated.

Two other areas that came in for heavy criticism as a result of the 1951 scandal — recruiting and subsidization — have continued to flourish despite the proclamations of the NCAA and other bodies. One need look no further than last August for definite proof.

At that time it was revealed that North Carolina State, one of the nation's top basketball teams year-in and year-out, had been put on probation for one year by the newly formed Atlantic Coast Conference for violating "the try-out rules of the Conference and the NCAA." State, it seems, invited 14 high school stars to its campus, at the College's expense to and from, for the purpose of "trying out." College officials, including basketball coach Everett Case, admitted the illegal recruiting.

This is the same type of rule-flouting and underhanded methods used by some colleges to get basketball players that was so sadly commented on by Ralph Beard, Kentucky star who admitted taking bribes, back in 1951. He said: "Recruiting. That's the start of it. How they went out and got us to play. It got so big. We got big. Too big." And it prompted New York General Sessions Judge Saul Streit, who presided at many of the basketball bribe trials, to remark bitterly: "The chronic evils of basketball recruiting will 'explode into an atomic athletic scandal' unless the evils are corrected."

The loud cry that went up three years ago concerning the fact that college officials should be held liable for such illegal practices seems to have faded into whispers today judging from the North Carolina State episode. The biggest sufferers were the 14 high school kids who were banned permanently from competing in intercollegiate athletics for State. No action, not even from State officials, was brought against the coach or the athletic department for deliberately violating the rule.

The North Carolina State incident is not an isolated one. Just this past summer Notre Dame, Michigan State and Arizona State at Tempe were all reprimanded by the NCAA for illegal recruiting practices in football. The crux of this situation was amply summed up in another report at the 1953 convention of the NCAA.

A part of this report for the Fourth District (Illinois, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan) (Continued on page 56)



TURKEY

an ally we can trust

Concerning a country which
knows how to stand its ground—
and how to stand by its friends.

By **HENRY C. WOLFE**

HASN'T ANY nation the courage to stand up to Russia? In this Soviet-appeasing era, discouraged Americans keep asking that question. The answer is that Turkey has the courage. In 1945, when her colossal next-door neighbor demanded three Turkish provinces and Dardanelles bases, little Turkey said No and made it stick. Before the Turkish David's "Only over our dead bodies!" the Soviet Goliath backed down—and has stayed that way.

In Turkey's refusal to concede an inch, there is a priceless lesson for the big Western democracies. The Soviet leaders, veteran No-men themselves, understand a forceful *Nyet* in any language. It is the kind of talk they respect. And it is the kind of talk that saved the Turks their freedom. Undoubtedly some of the Soviet satellites would be free nations today if, like the Turks, they had faced up to the Kremlin's aggression. And if the big Western democracies had stood their ground as the men of the crescent and star did, the USSR would not be calling the turn in world affairs.

In Turkey's defiance of the USSR, perhaps the most heroic feature is the fact that in early 1945 the little republic stood alone. This was the Yalta period. The United States was still at war with Japan. Washington and London were going all out to court Moscow and selling the Chinese down the Volga. When the Russians demanded Turkish territory and bases, they were moving in for the kill. The USSR was flushed with territorial gains and the Yalta diplomatic victory. War had destroyed her principal rivals in both East and West. Thanks to more than eleven billions of American lend-lease, the Kremlin had not only a gigantic army but a great deal of the most up-to-date fighting equipment.

Turkey, on the other hand, had neither dependable allies nor any source of strong diplomatic or even moral support. The little Straits country, about as big as Texas and Maine combined, had only a small army, virtually no modern arms and almost no air force or anti-aircraft defense. Its twenty million people faced the red army on two hostile borders—367 miles of Soviet frontier and 124 miles of puppet Bulgarian frontier. Moreover, with only minor naval forces, the Turks had an exposed 966-mile Black Sea coast facing the USSR. Any way you look at it, Turkey was overwhelmingly outmatched. The population odds were over nine to one. Territorially, not counting the ten European



While more powerful allies dragged their feet, Turkey came to our aid in Korea. Here a group of 1,200 Turkish soldiers embark at Istanbul.

nations and parts of two others newly swallowed by the Soviets, the challenger was more than twenty-seven times bigger than the defender.

Outmatched, that is, except in the courage to stick up for its rights. It is not for nothing that the Turks have been centuries-long neighbors to the Russians. In the struggle for national survival, strategically-located Turkey has fought some thirteen wars with the aggressor next door. From age-old experience in diplomacy and war, the hard-bitten, steady-nerved Turks have learned how to handle the imperial colossus. If they started appeasing the Kremlin, they realized, they would lose their independence and who knows how many Turkish lives. They set out to defend their territory and independence at all costs. Had they surrendered to the aggressor's demands, the aftermath would have been catastrophic for the Western world. With the red army, air force and submarines in the Mediterranean, the Soviet would have been perfectly based for conquest of the Middle East, Africa and Southern Europe.

In preferring to die as free men rather than live as Soviet slaves, the Turks had one supremely important asset. They were a united people—none more so against communism. There was no communist fifth column, virtually no communists among the republic's population. No political party in Turkey favored appeasement. There were no newspapers or magazines which spread Soviet propaganda. The Turkish government was, therefore, solidly backed by the people.

Actually, the Soviet campaign to destroy Turkey began in earnest in September, 1939. Geographically and strategically, Turkey occupies a location of highest importance. It



Turkish soldiers such as these won high praise for their exploits against the communists in Korea.



Forming a land bridge between Europe and Asia, Turkey has long been coveted by the Russians.

failed to bluff, cajole or out-maneuver the indomitable Saracoglu.

During the period of the Nazi-Soviet pact (August, 1939, to June, 1941) Hitler and Stalin bargained over deals involving Turkey. Since each partner distrusted the other, however, neither was willing to help the other get control of the Dardanelles and its Balkan approaches. Here again, it should be emphasized, the determining factor was Turkey itself. Stalin found little Finland, with only four million people, a tough nut to crack. He knew that Turkey would give battle and that the Turkish soldiers—as Americans learned some eleven years later in Korea—were the peers of the world's best fighting men. Stalin had no stomach for such a conflict.

But once Hitler attacked Stalin, the Kremlin was quick to remember that the USSR and Turkey were old friends, that they had treaties of friendship and non-aggression. By the Montreux Convention, the Soviet Union was, in effect, protected from attack through the Black Sea by a non-Black Sea power. On August 10, 1941, the Kremlin sent Turkey a note reaffirming devotion to the Montreux Convention and promising to make no aggressive gestures against the Dardanelles. The Soviet would scrupulously respect Turkey's territorial integrity, Stalin promised. The Turks, by this time, understood the Kremlin's tactics too well to be taken in by such sheer opportunism.

It was no surprise to the Turks, therefore, when in March, 1945, the Russians suddenly denounced the 1925 treaty of friendship with Turkey. A furious propaganda campaign from Moscow accompanied this act. This was all timed, of course, to synchronize with the defeat of Germany. Now that vast territorial gains and the Yalta diplomatic prizes were in his pocket, Stalin was readying his next move against Turkey. It came on June 7, 1945, when Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov notified Turkish Ambassador



1. There is political stability. Here the Turkish Parliament votes.



2

2. A Black Sea harbor is improved to handle greater coal production.



3

3. Primarily an agricultural country, Turkey adopts modern methods.

is an historic land bridge between Europe and Asia, a short cut from the Soviet Union to the Mediterranean basin. Its Bosphorus and Dardanelles would afford the USSR long-coveted access to the warm waters of the Mediterranean. Under cover of World War II, Stalin was setting out to take over as much territory as possible. He was engaged in his successful move to seize Estonia and Latvia. In a little over two months he would attack Finland.

Less than four weeks after Hitler plunged Europe into war, Stalin "invited" Foreign Minister Saracoglu of Turkey to visit Moscow. For three weeks the Soviet dictator tried to force the Turkish diplomat into making concessions that would lead to Russian control of Turkey. But Stalin was not dealing with a Chamberlain or a Daladier. He completely

Sarper that the Kremlin wanted a slice of territory in eastern Turkey and bases in the Dardanelles. Here was the showdown. In Turkey's blunt refusal Stalin met his first post-Yalta defeat.

But the Russians were not staking their Turkish campaign on a single diplomatic battle. They were laying siege to the courageous little republic. To the west of Turkey a communist-inspired civil war was raging in Greece. To the north, Bulgaria was in Soviet hands. To the east, the Russians were attempting to get control of Iran, with which Turkey has a 290-mile frontier. It was obviously the Kremlin strategy to isolate Turkey, wear her down, break her morale and annihilate her. The unequal contest went on till the spring of 1947.

Then came help from the United States. Washington at last saw the light—Greece was being destroyed by the Kremlin's fifth columns and the Soviet (Continued on page 60)



How part of the Desert Inn looks from the fabulous Sky Room.

LAS VEGAS'

GOLDEN BOY

The hottest personality on the Nevada desert is Lucky Wilbur Clark.

By JOSEPH STOCKER

LAS VEGAS, a burgeoning, bespangled citadel of sin in the middle of the Nevada desert, was grateful not long ago for two wondrous blessings. One was bestowed by a young U. S. Senator from Tennessee named Estes Kefauver. The other blessing was dispensed by a former bellhop from Keyes-

One corner of the Casino where patrons are encouraged to pay court to Lady Luck.

port, Illinois, a chap named Wilbur Clark.

Senator Kefauver's contribution was to plug up the wellsprings of gambling—for the time being, at least—in 47 of the States. This impelled the gaming gentry to betake themselves to No. 48, which happens to be Nevada, where gambling by a lucky chance is legal.

After a hard night spent slaving over dice or cards, guests go in for pool.

Wilbur Clark's contribution, at about the same time, was to open a new Las Vegas luxury gambling hotel, splashier than anything of its kind built to date. It was a \$3,500,000 home-away-from-home known as Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn. This made available some 300 voluptuously-carpeted rooms to ac-

Or they can play a bit of golf on the excellent 18-hole course for guests.



Wilbur Clark



One of the three roulette tables which give the desert resort a touch of famed Monte Carlo.



Name entertainers such as Ted Lewis provide diversion.



These ladies are trying to run modest stakes into a million dollars, more or less.

commodate craps-hungry refugees from the 47 States. It also advertised Las Vegas wherever in the world people read the printed word. For Wilbur spent \$150,000 on a grand opening which was only slightly less spectacular than Pearl Harbor and was reported with great fidelity to detail in the world's press.

That took place on April 24, 1950. In the intervening three years and some odd months, Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn has enjoyed an unparalleled success (a reported 12-month gross of \$5,000,000). "It's easily the best money-maker in town," observed a close student of big Las Vegas money-makers. As many as 75,000 people have passed through or tarried in the hotel during a single month, according to Wilbur's own measured estimate. And Wilbur, in the process, has become a legend—the hottest personality to show up on the Nevada desert since Bugsy Siegel, whose fame was mostly posthumous anyway.

The hotel itself is responsible in part for the legend which has earned Wilbur Clark such sobriquets as the Bonanza King, Little Caesar II and Las Vegas' Golden Boy. In a town where big gambling hotels are the last word in elegance, extravagance and creature comforts, the Desert Inn is the last word plus one.

It occupies 16 acres of plushy grounds and is done up in a fetching combination of Bermuda pink and dark green, with a tile roof composed of a quarter-million pieces set in by hand. It has its own golf course and a 35-foot water fountain. It claims the largest hotel casino in Nevada—five crap tables, four blackjack games, three roulette wheels, a turf-betting department and 75 green-neon-lighted slot machines.

Here, one night in June of 1950, an

unprepossessing young man wearing a sweater made 28 consecutive passes with the dice and rolled up Wilbur's biggest single loss to date—\$150,000. If the young man had let his winnings pile up, he could have amassed a total of exactly \$268,435,456, assuming the casino's bankroll held out that far. As it was, he won only \$750. The rest of the \$150,000 was distributed among a clutch of slick gamblers, including one of Wilbur's competitors, who kept placing side bets. As the astonishing 1-hour-and-20-minute run of luck wore on, customers piled 15 deep around the table. People on the outside were offering as high as \$500 for a place at the table.

The lucky dice are now enshrined in a glass case near the front door. Wilbur knows good advertising when he sees it.

The casino is patrolled by 15 uniformed cops and an assortment of eagle-eyed "pit bosses" whose job is to see that the customers don't cheat and there is no dealer-player collusion. Collusion is practically non-existent, says Wilbur, since the dealers are paid well (upwards of \$35 a day) and tips range from generous to astronomical. A Texas oil man won \$50,000 during a night's play and handed out \$4,000 in tips to five dealers.

The bar is 90 feet long and each stool has a number. Every hour on the hour a giant roulette wheel is spun behind the bar and a nude figure of Lady Luck lights up. The wheel stops and the bartender presents a silver dollar to whoever is squatting on the stool with the lucky number. This doesn't cost Wilbur very much, however. For he usually can count on the dollar being chucked right down the gullet of one of his 75 green-neon slot machines, in fulfillment of a quaint American folk custom known as "Easy come, easy go."

The frosting on all this cake is the

glass-enclosed Sky Room. The Sky Room is a cozy, third-story vantage point whence you can gaze meditatively out over your cocktail at most of Las Vegas and any atomic test explosions occurring at the moment. When the Atomic Energy Commission stages its big shows 70 miles north of Las Vegas at Frenchman's Flat, the Sky Room is the scene of gay "atom parties." Gamblers swap bets on the exact moment of each blast. If there's a strong southerly breeze, the remnants of the mushroom-shaped cloud are wafted right over Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn.

It wouldn't surprise Las Vegas to see the cloud pause at exactly that point and rearrange itself to form the letters of Wilbur's name. For Wilbur is regarded, among a people who are experts on the subject of luck, as a very lucky man.

He launched the building of his Desert Inn shortly after the war. It was to be his dream hotel, and Wilbur had been dreaming about it for years. But that was a time when the cautious money of Las Vegas was saying that the war-swollen town was headed for a recession. "I either had a lot of guts or I was crazy," Wilbur says. His competitors surmised that it was a little of both.

Some of the outlying units were up and the foundation for the main building was dug when Wilbur ran out of money. For a year the Desert Inn stood there, more desert than inn, and the weeds grew up all around. "All Wilbur had to show for his money was a hole in the ground," says one of his associates, "and that's the biggest nothing a man can own."

Wilbur went looking for angels and found them, although they turned out to be slightly less than angelic. They were a syndicate of Cleveland and De-

(Continued on page 46)

THE LEGION IN PICTURES



At this season thousands of Legion Posts are planning Christmas parties for orphans and underprivileged chil-

dren. Above is scene as Easton (Pa.) Legionnaires visited County children's home, bearing gifts, last year.



Paris Post I purchased and maintains this quiet, lovely spot at Pont Neuilly, five miles from capital. Any American Legionnaire who dies in Europe may be buried here.



Nat'l Cmdr. Arthur Connell shakes hands with Yakima (Wash.) champion Legion Junior Baseballers, guests of the Legion at 1953 World Series.



A LEGION POST HOLDS A SALMON FISHING PARTY



Hundreds of boats dot water, patrolled by Coast Guard. More, on beach, come and go. More than 1,000 kids were led by Auxiliary's hot dog, ice cream and milk bar (near foreground) in all-day line-up.

It was a party for children only, and 13-year-old Fred Meyer (left) took top honors with his 12 lb. 7½ oz. Chinook salmon. He is shown getting bike and \$50 Defense Bond he won. Twelve others won bikes too.



A BIG DAY FOR KIDS

AT PORT ANGELES,

WASHINGTON

WHEN the Chinook salmon run in Juan de Fuca Strait, Walter Akeley Post 29, American Legion, and most of the citizens of Port Angeles, Washington, declare a holiday. Shown here is the 14th annual Junior Salmon Derby, sponsored recently by Akeley Post.

It was an all-day affair. Nine hundred twenty-three youngsters fished in two shifts, caught 189 salmon and 60 other fish. Fishing clubs, Coast Guard, sheriff's office, Sea Scouts and others joined to help make it a big and safe day for the kids. The 33 biggest salmon won handsome prizes for their captors. Of several other fishing parties sponsored by Legion Posts, biggest is Gulfport (Miss.) fishing rodeo for all comers, sponsored by Joe Graham Post 119.

When you throw a party for 1,000 young fishermen, you have to take care of the small fry and tag-alongs too, or mother might as well stay home. Here's first heat of small-fry 50-yard dash, an added attraction.



The salmon were no respecters of age or sex. In line-up of 13 top winners with their fish and new bikes, nearly half are girls. One of 3 salmon over 12 lbs. was taken by Anna Simonson, age 10, of Agnew, Wash.

LEGION ROD & GUN CLUB



Truett D. Frazier of the Sevier County News-Record in Sevierville, Tennessee, seems to like the Rod & Gun column to the extent of dropping his personal pearls:

"As is often the case," he avers, "I learned the following trick the hard way. Perhaps it will be of value to other coldweather hunters.

"This frigid month calls for attention to the type of lubrication used in your favorite gun. Oil gets stiff in zero surroundings and will cause slow action or even complete misfire. There are several gun oils that combat this tendency, but one is not always handy to a sports store.

"A good lubricant for arms can be made by diluting valve oil (sometimes referred to as upper cylinder lubricant) with two parts kerosene. Apply this with a soft cloth, just enough to lightly coat the working parts. This solution will provide a thin film, but no heavy, sluggish deposits."



All States report deer herds on the increase this year. So get set. But remember, more hunters are killed deer hunting than any other way. So bring your caution with you. Wear red. Shoot only when you are certain.

Michigan, always an interesting outdoor State, has come up with a neat gimmick to help in tabulating game—especially pheasant broods. She tabbed her rural mail carriers and asked their help in reporting birds seen, numbers of nests—that sort of thing. More than 585 mailmen responded. And the figures they brought in were encouraging. They counted 32% more broods than last year. They kept their records from July 27th to August 8th, in 38 counties of the southern lower peninsula. A total of 5,000 broods of pheasant were seen. An interesting experiment.

If you've had lost-dog trouble while hunting this year, here's a little trick to remember: Walk into the center of the area where you were hunting and where you believe the dog may be lost. Scuff your feet around the ground. This helps impart

By JACK DENTON SCOTT

your scent to the ground. Then remove an article of clothing, place it on the ground and continue to scuff the general area thereabouts. Continue to call your dog. If he still doesn't return, go back there early the following morning. In nine cases out of ten you'll find your lost dog curled up on the article of clothing you left behind. He found your scent and stayed there, hoping you would turn up.

We don't know who has all the imagination in Michigan, but they sure come up with some lulus. Now the Conservation Department has decided to give trout sleeping potions. The theory is that trout being so frisky, take up lots of room when they are put into the transport truck tanks to be taken to streams and planted. Put asleep, they can be literally sardine-packed in the tanks, thus saving the state money and giving the sportsmen more fish in their streams.

Sodium amytal is mixed with water in the transport tank to convert the vehicle into a trout Pullman. Lulled to sleep the trout snooze until they reach their destination.

We can't give Michigan all the credit, however. We remember that the state of California actually pioneered the method with the result that they reported they were able to carry twice as many fish twice as far.

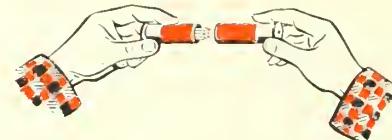
Returned to the clear, swift water of streams the trout are brought out of their sleep—with no bad aftereffects.

And F. M. Stevens from the Buckeye state has a simple one that may make taking your gun apart a trifle easier: "When cleaning and oiling my gun," he says, "I put all small parts in sequence on a strip of cellophane or Scotch tape. That way you can't go wrong in replacing the parts or losing them down a warm-air register."

Landis Blake slides in with a tasty item: "Rabbits seem to be on the upgrade. If you had a full bag of them this year, try a cooking tip that will make them your favorite game food. Stuff that cottontail with a good tangy sausage and bake in a slow oven. The rabbit will emerge from the oven a golden brown and will hit the table juicy and delicious."

Something new is being added to the game bird list in America. For years the colorful hardflying chukar partridge has been successfully raised on wire in many preserves. And some States have tried re-

leasing them for public shooting, but with marked success. Now Oregon, after many months of experiment, has released 10,000 of the exotic birds. There are high hopes in that state that they can do with the chukar what the Dakotas have done with the pheasant.



Charles R. Steitz, Jr. of Pennsylvania, has a simple but useful tip for December hunters. "It's quite a job to keep matches dry in wet winter weather," he says. "I've found that by inserting an empty 16 gauge shotgun shell into an empty 12 gauge shell these sizes just naturally fit tightly together. The cases are heavily waxed and completely waterproof. My homemade matchbox holds about ten 'strike anywhere' matches. Simple, but it works."

For your outdoor reading in 1954, Greenberg Publishers have placed on sale *The Modern Colt Guide* by Burr Leyson; selling for \$1.00, it contains complete information about modern Colt handguns, ammunition, accessories and parts. Not to be outdone, High Standard Manufacturing Company of New Haven, Connecticut, has put out a little booklet for one-tenth that amount, called *Smallbore Handgunners Guide*. Both are worth the space on your bookshelf.

Ted Keller of Seaford, Delaware, is an ingenious guy. He sent us a black-and-white photograph of his gun rack that made us drool. Here's what he has to say about improving the looks of that homemade or storebought rack:

"For a novel and rustic appearance, hang your guns on croches cut from trees. I cut a number of croches and left them to dry for six months in the garage. Then I peeled the bark off with a knife and cut a flat surface on the back side with a saw. Drilling two holes for screws, I varnished them and later put them in place."

If you have an unusual idea that pertains to hunting or fishing; one that is helpful to fellow readers of this column, send it along. If we can use it, we'll reward you with a hunting or fishing accessory. Address: OUTDOOR EDITOR, Rod and Gun Club, *The American Legion Magazine*, 580 Fifth Avenue, New York 36, New York.



FISHERMAN...



SKATER...



TEN-STRIKE BOWLER...



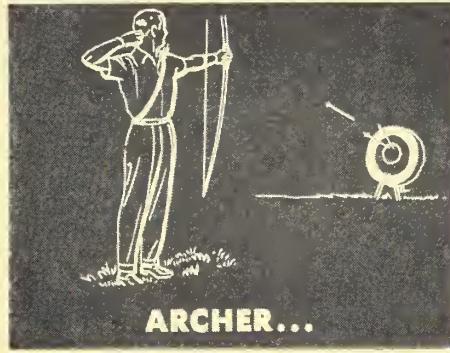
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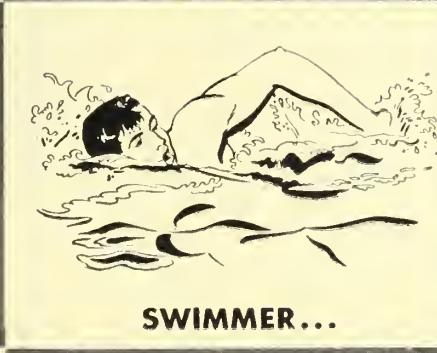
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ARCHER...



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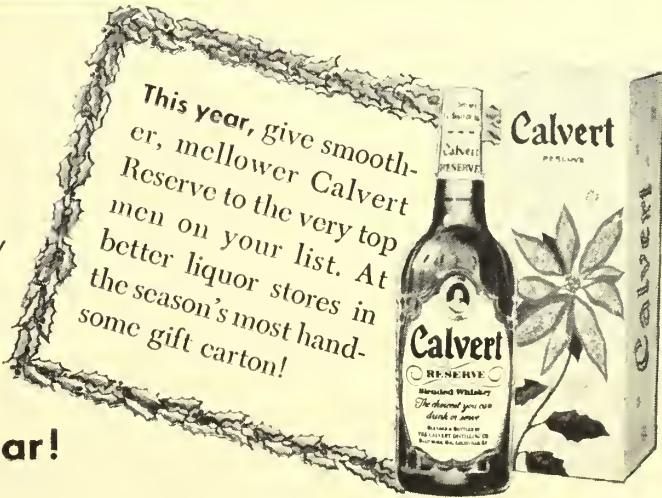


TENNIS FAN...

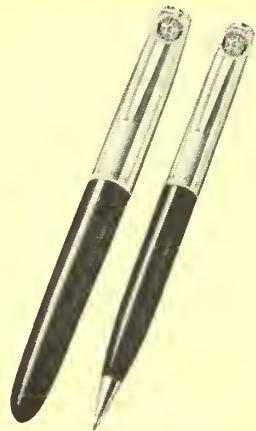
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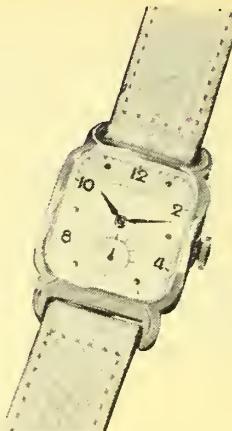
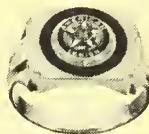


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L975-10—10-K natural gold. Design on side in hard enamel. Black onyx top. Smart, exclusive. \$22.20

L979—Heavy-weight, beautifully engraved and enameled Legion blue circle surrounding emblem. Outstanding value. 10-K gold. \$27.00

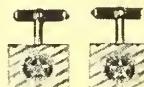
Carlton—Hamilton 17 jewels. Natural gold-filled case, 18-K gold numerals and dots on sterling silver dial. With expansion band and Legion emblem. \$66.50



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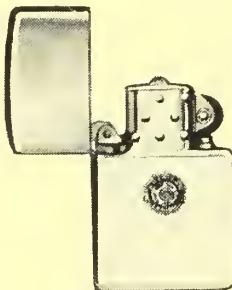


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L224—Sterling Silver Currency Clip. Legion emblem. Good weight, well made and of best quality. Gift box. \$1.80



L962—Zippo—Famous windproof streamlined lighter. Lifetime guarantee. Satin chrome finish. \$4.27



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LN992—Surf. Elgin DeLuxe Shockmaster. 17 jewels, adjusted. DuraPower mainspring. Shock and water resistant case. 10-K natural gold-filled case. Styled dial with sweep second hand. With expansion band and Legion emblem. \$65.50



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NEWS of the LEGION

and Veterans' Affairs

DECEMBER 1953

Civil Defense Crisis Gets Top Billing in Busy Legion Month

The inadequacy of America's Civil Defense preparedness got major attention in an event-packed 13 days of concentrated activity on the national Legion level, Oct. 5-17.

During that span of days, four major Legion events of the year occurred. The four events:

- Oct. 5, Nat'l Cmdr Arthur J. Connell visited the President of the U. S. and laid before him the chief matters of Legion concern in Federal policy;
- Oct. 10, the city of Middletown, Conn., staged a huge celebration on the occasion of Nat'l Cmdr Connell's Homecoming, following his election as Legion head for 1953-54 at the St. Louis convention;
- Oct. 12-13, the commanders and adjutants of every Legion department held their annual nat'l conference at Nat'l HQ in Indianapolis;
- Oct. 15-17, the Legion's Nat'l Executive Committee held its annual fall meeting at Nat'l HQ in Indianapolis, reviewed all nat'l Legion programs for the coming year, cleaned up work left for it by the nat'l convention, appointed major non-elective administrative officers and confirmed the Nat'l Cmdr's appointments of all members of national commissions and committees for the coming year.

Of hundreds of subjects that got top Legion attention during the busy 13-day

span, national preparedness, especially Civil Defense, was most emphasized. Cmdr Connell discussed Civil Defense weaknesses at some length with the President on Oct. 5. Connell emphasized the need for better Civil Defense again in his major address, broadcast from coast to coast, at the wind-up of the big Homecoming that his home town of Middletown, Conn., gave him Oct. 10.

On Monday, Oct. 12 and Tuesday, Oct. 13 the Legion's conference of Department Commanders and Adjutants heard two frank, uneasy talks about (1) our national vulnerability to destructive attack and (2) the sorry state of Civil Defense.

Rep. W. Sterling Cole (N. Y.), chairman of the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy, flew from Washington to Indianapolis, and on Oct. 12 he gave the Legion state leaders a somber picture of the atomic armament situation. Cole called for an all-out H-bomb production program and ticked off these points:

1. Russia, once assumed to be well behind us in fission research, exploded an H-bomb 9 months after we did.

2. Hydrogen energy, it now seems, is much easier to harness for war than we once thought it would be.

3. The Soviets have the capacity to outstrip our thermonuclear program if we falter in the least.

4. The Soviets must never doubt our preparedness, and the time to prepare against the likelihood of attack is now.

5. Business as usual today could mean utter ruin.

6. Cole, personally, would ignore expense in H-bomb production today, launch an H-project on a scale with our WW2 atomic project, for "if I face the choice, I'd prefer financial ruin to atomic ruin."

7. We must rely, for safety, on respect for our powers of retaliation, since our defenses in depth are far short of what they should be. In a large-scale atomic Pearl Harbor on our continental interior, most enemy planes would reach their targets.

Dangerous apathy

The following day, Val Peterson, ex-Gov. of Nebraska and present U. S. Director of Civil Defense, spoke to the conference. Peterson stripped to his shirtsleeves and spoke extemporaneously for nearly an hour. He found our Civil Defense sadly wanting in view of Russian capability to deliver atomic weapons to "all or nearly all of our metropolitan industrial centers simultaneously" with a possibility of nine to twenty million casualties, according to some estimates.

Peterson reported widespread apathy toward Civil Defense, due, he said, to (1) inherent human laziness; (2) wishing so hard that there won't be a war that the wish is fact in many minds; (3) shrugging off atomic destruction as something nobody can do anything

WORRIED GUESTS AT NATIONAL LEGION HQ



Shirtsleeved Peterson.....Get our people ready

Senator Kennedy.....More big bombers

about; (4) misplaced faith that the military can stop enemy bombers from getting to their targets; (5) insulated mentalities—the last time America was invaded was in 1815, and today the only Americans who know anything about modern warfare are the veterans.

But the present apathy could be suicidal, Peterson warned. A properly trained, previously prepared nationwide Civil Defense organization can cut by 50% or more the damage that would be wrought by air raids on an unprepared populace. On the other hand, he said, amateurs and untrained people can be worse than no help at all in a disaster.

Peterson urged that Legion state officials do all they can to help bring about better civilian preparedness. "You cannot wait," he said, "until the bombs are falling upon the United States to organize these people. They must be trained in advance and ready for the job." Civil Defense, he said, is mostly a matter of training people to be auxiliaries, in time of need, to existing services—such as police, fire fighters, medical and first aid units.

"It is a difficult assignment," he added, "to attempt to arouse people to the point where they will take the action that is needed to defend themselves and our country against this kind of attack."

A Job for The Legion

Peterson did not stop at asking general support from the Legion. He offered the organization a specific Civil Defense job. "I would like to suggest to The American Legion," he said, "that each of the 17,200 Legion posts sponsor a volunteer eight-man rescue team, or a squad of three 8-man teams, in cooperation with their local civil defense organizations." The teams and squads could be organized, he said, in accordance with Federal Civil Defense Administration Advisory Bulletin 152. Though they would be subject to local civil defense

authority, they could and should maintain their identity as Legion arms of the community civil defense picture. Peterson went on to urge that at least one Legionnaire from each state take a special Civil Defense training course at the nat'l training center at Olney, Md. He offered to turn the center over to the Legion for one week, if it should prove to be practical.

It was the first time a definite Civil Defense job had been asked of the Legion since WW2, and was welcomed. Three days later, the Legion National Executive Committee endorsed the general idea of trained, Legion post rescue teams.

The Big Stick

Boyish-looking Senator John F. Kennedy (Mass.) came before the Nat'l Executive Committee on Oct. 16—interrupting his honeymoon and bringing his petite bride.

Kennedy, too, voiced the growing concern for national strength to offset the threat of increased Soviet military potential. He spoke for a vastly increased strategic air force "with sufficient retaliatory power to threaten a potential aggressor with havoc and ruin. . . ."

Said Kennedy, "The traditional advantages that the initial attack has always given an aggressor will be multiplied a thousand-fold by the destructiveness of atomic fire power."

We should therefore, he added, ". . . concentrate all our ability on a strategic air force containing such retaliatory powers that the Soviets will be impelled to hold their hand."

A Talk with Ike

Civil Defense had come up also in Nat'l Cmdr Connell's talk with Pres. Eisenhower on Oct. 5. It was a good talk, a long talk, and the President put off another appointment to keep it going. Ike, also disturbed by general Civil

Defense apathy, asked Cmdr Connell for all the support the Legion could give. Connell promised wholehearted backing. Cmdr Connell also outlined to Ike the Legion's positions regarding trends in veterans affairs and in other matters of major national policy, as they had come out of the recent nat'l convention. The President was notified of the Legion's continued interest in Universal Military Training, and listened with interest when it was pointed out that UMT would go far toward providing a background of trained manpower which would also be of use at home for the acute Civil Defense situation.

The originally brief appointment with the President ran over 40 minutes. Before it was over Ike received from Cmdr Connell a new Legion cap and his membership card for 1954.

A Big Party

Middletown, Conn., and its Milardo Wilcox Post 75 did themselves and Arthur J. Connell proud as they gave the Nat'l Cmdr a Homecoming on Oct. 10 to rank with the best. Although the city on the banks of the Connecticut River is a substantial one, the Homecoming was of such proportions that traffic was tied up to the extreme outskirts of Middletown long before noon.

It was a perfect Fall Saturday, clear and blue, and visiting Legionnaires poured in from as far away as New Mexico and Wisconsin, with large delegations from nearly all of the eastern states. Nearly 75,000 people were present when the impressive 3-hour parade began at 1 p.m. Merchants closed their stores and the testimonial to Connell continued for nearly 12 hours—did not end until after midnight following a dinner in Connell's honor attended by 1100 people, and a free public dance in Middletown's armory.

Many distinguished citizens of Connecticut and the nation joined the citi-

PHOTOS BY THE HARTFORD COURANT



Connecticut's Gov. Lodge & Cmdr Connell.....They salute Middletown's salute



zens of Middletown in their tribute to Connecticut's first National Commander of the American Legion. Participants included Connecticut's Governor & Mrs. John D. Lodge; U. S. Senator William S. Purtell; Stephen K. Bailey, Mayor of Middletown; five Past Nat'l Cmdrs (Harry Colmery, Kans.; Paul Griffith, Pa.; Ray Murphy, Iowa; James O'Neil, N. H. and Edward Scheiberling, N. Y.); and entertainers Morton Downey, Conrad Nagel, Edward G. Robinson and Marilyn Stone.

LEGISLATIVE:

The 1954 Program

Early in Oct., the Nat'l Legislative Commission reviewed the Legion's legislative program for 1954. On the 16th, Chmn Jerome Duggan (Mo.) reported to the National Executive Committee a summary of some 204 Legion legislative mandates now in effect through action of various nat'l conventions and the Nat'l Executive Committee. Involved were 43 bills & resolutions now alive in the Senate, 91 in the House and more than 60 others in a pending status. Also involved were 113 Legion legislative mandates for which no legislation has been drafted.

So that the Legislative staff could handle its job intelligently in the face of 204 mandates, the Nat'l Executive Committee pondered a system of priorities. On Oct. 17, the Nat'l Legislative priorities for 1954 were established.

Support

Some of the high priority mandates called for support of existing or proposed Federal policies or legislation. They included support of:

- More funds for service-connected medical and dental care for disabled veterans; and for the administration of VA medical, hospital and domiciliary care.
- Removal of inequities whereby compensation and pensions for veterans and their dependents are awarded on different bases, depending on which war the veteran served in.
- The bringing into being of Universal Military Training.
- Development of an expanded and more effective Civil Defense program.
- Continued funds for the Veterans Employment program.
- Extension of VA direct loan program to Jan. 1, 1955.
- An Amendment to the U. S. Constitution to prevent treaties and agreements with foreign powers from legally getting around the Constitution in their effect on U. S. internal affairs.
- Increase of Social Security wage-credits for the military from \$160 a month to \$250 a month.

- Exemption of American Legion Junior Baseball games from admissions tax.
- Any program to increase efficiency in administration of veterans affairs, provided there is no loss of benefits and services to veterans.

Oppose

Some of the high priority mandates called for opposition to existing or proposed Federal policies or legislation. The included opposition to:

- Any change in basic law affecting hospitalization of non-service-connected veterans.
- Any dismemberment of the VA, with special emphasis on opposing separation of VA medical services and establishments from the VA.
- Any proposal that would weaken the Veterans Preference Act of 1944, as amended.
- Any changes in the McCarran-Walter Act (PL 14, 82nd Congress) that would rescind or materially weaken it.
- Admission of displaced persons over and above the current quota.

How It is Done

Legion influence in Congress is no hit or miss affair, according to the report given the state Legion officials in Indianapolis, Oct. 13 by the Legislative staff. Policies come directly from convention and Executive Committee action, after having originated, for the most part, in Post or Department resolutions. "Success in this field," said Director Miles Kennedy, "depends wholly on the fairness of the proposition, skillful legislative maneuvering, thorough knowledge of the subject, numerical strength and sustained organized effort." Actual foundation of a sound and effective program, he emphasized, is based on the knowledge of individual Legionnaires.

To help Legionnaires keep abreast of the legislative program, the Nat'l Legislative Commission announced that its *Legislative Bulletin*, bi-weekly dope

sheet on trends in Congress, is again available.

It is one of the most informative and least expensive of all Washington newsletters (\$3 for entire session of Congress.)

Bulletin, offered for subscription Oct. 15, has new, improved format. It carries up-to-date reports on all Washington matters in which Legion has expressed interest. Analyzes position, support of and opposition to bills in Congress, reports Legion Legislative actions to all subscribers and traces Washington events that control pending bills.

Because of tremendous value of this bulletin in keeping Legionnaires abreast of the twists and turns and pace of legislative and administrative affairs in Washington, subscription coupon for readers' convenience is published on this page.

REHABILITATION:

AMA Plays a Lone Hand

The Legion had definitely lost patience with the American Medical Association's weaving, twisting, opportunist attacks on the Federal system of medical care for veterans. On Oct. 17 the Nat'l Executive Committee called a spade a spade.

There remained no doubt that AMA bigwigs had never had a case to back up their former claims of widespread abuse in veteran care.

Every past AMA claim had crumpled into nothingness. Last spring, AMA witnesses before a Congressional committee beat a hasty retreat. They declined to give a shred of valid evidence to back up the most serious charges that they had given to newspapers and hurled from public platforms — charges which claimed that well-to-do veterans in great numbers were getting VA care for non-service-connected disabilities by lying about their ability to afford private care.

The Congressional hearings on veterans hospitalization last spring filled 2,909 pages of testimony and evidence,

National Legislative Commission
The American Legion
1608 K Street, N.W.
Washington 6, D. C.

Date.....

Attached find check (money order) for three dollars (\$3.00) for which enter subscription to the National Legislative Bulletin of The American Legion for the entire 2nd Session of the 83rd Congress which convenes January 6, 1954. Send same to:

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in which Congress — with the strong approval of the Legion — sought to get at the facts behind long years of claims and counterclaims regarding widespread abuse of the veterans hospital privileges, in which AMA leaders had played a large part.

Given their day in court, and asked pointblank on the witness stand to give Congress tangible evidence of the abuses, the medical leaders gave exactly none.

Not only the Congress, but the Legion and the VA had taken the charges seriously. The Legion, in cooperation with the VA, had investigated nearly 5,000 non-service-connected cases in VA general hospitals, where most of the wealthy veterans were alleged to be reeling.

The result was recorded by the Nat'l Executive Committee on Oct. 17: "The American Legion's searching inquiry . . . finds no material or significant evidence to support either the contention that they (non-service-connected VA patients) had ability to pay or were otherwise unworthy of hospital care as provided by law."

In the past, the Legion had attempted to cooperate with the AMA. Now the Legion's Nat'l Executive Committee put an abrupt end to polite language. Written into the official Legion record on Oct. 17 were these words:

"National organizations embracing the medical profession have repeatedly made public statements that there is widespread imposition upon the Federal government by veterans seeking care . . . by falsely swearing . . .

"When opportunity was extended to these organizations to submit evidence to the Congress, this resulted either in the presentation of material which proved to be false or inaccurate, or they declined to cooperate with the Committee by refusing to give the evidence they contended they possessed . . ."

But the AMA leaders were undaunted by their embarrassment in Congress. They simply hoisted a new flag. Early in the summer they declared war on veterans medicine, abuses or no, and switched to an organized campaign of attack on the *principles* of veterans medical care. Suddenly the whole program was wrong.

AMA word artists got busy and ground out hysterical canned speeches, editorials and letters-to-the-editor which working physicians were supposed to parrot in their home towns. They challenged the entire framework of public policy of medical care for veterans.

On Oct. 17, the Legion's Nat'l Executive Committee had words for that, too. "This campaign, opposing the care of veterans as a class, is entirely false in premise and is in direct contradiction to

the will of the American people as expressed in Congress."

AMA had trouble with its campaign on other fronts too. Member physicians, engaged more in healing than in power-seeking, were beginning to squirm at the growing fiasco committed in their names by zealous leaders, as more fingers began to point at the falseness of the AMA position.

VA Medical Director Joel T. Boone told the NEC on Oct. 16: "I would be unworthy of my degree of Doctor of Medicine if I did not have the courage to stand up and declare those of my profession wrong in this issue. . . . I am proud to be a member of the AMA and I have been in the House of Delegates for two years . . . but not one president of the AMA in my time or that I can find out, or a president-elect, or a single member of the board of trustees, or an executive, has ever been in the Veterans Administration to find out the facts. . . ."

Meanwhile, in a large midwestern city, executives of a radio station took one look at specimens of the canned AMA attack on veterans medicine that they were asked to broadcast and flatly rejected it.

AMA officials were, in fact, courting the worst disaster in history for the healing profession. Their canned handouts attacking veterans medicine insisted that care for veterans under existing and ancient policy is a hidden stepping stone to socialized medicine. They urged that indigent, disabled veterans be thrown back upon their communities for indigent care in order to save the country from socialism.

Never before had the AMA defined "socialized medicine" in such a way as to compel America's war veterans to be for it.

Breach Of Contract

The AMA is, of course, urging that the United States engage in a breach of contract.

Readers of this magazine have read, over and over again in recent years, the protests of the Legion against moves to restrict the rights and benefits of veterans in the name of economy; to reduce veterans' medical care; to subtract from pensions and compensation; to lop off an "inconsequential" benefit here and another there; to impose a new "good and sensible" limitation in one instance, and again in another; to hedge on *refugee* in government jobs for veterans a bit this way and a bit that way.

There is also another area of protest. What has been happening to veterans' benefits is also happening to the traditional conveniences, rights and benefits of men in the services. "Sound dollar measures" have whittled and chipped

away at the bargains servicemen get in commissaries and post exchanges; arbitrary limitations have been imposed on opportunities for promotion in service; income tax exemptions on service pay have been reduced and limited; military pay scales have gone up, but not in proportion to the cost of living; four years enlistments have had four additional years of compulsory reserve service tacked onto them.

Too often, public discussion of these many reductions in the benefits of veterans and servicemen, or impositions upon them, are based "on the merits of the case." That is, each is discussed singly, in a vacuum, without regard to the public policy that relates to all of them, or to the fact that servicemen's & veterans' rights and benefits are part of a contract.

It is by ignoring the public policy that many benefits have been whittled, or stand in danger of being whittled. The public policy, since the nation began, recognized the need of the nation to enlist men to give extraordinary service in the military — to lay aside their civil liberties and take up employment in which they could be ordered to their deaths. The nation, from its beginnings, recognized that there was no pay scale that it could afford which could be considered adequate pay for such extraordinary service.

Hanson Baldwin, in the Oct. 13 *Saturday Evening Post*, quoted General Omar Bradley as saying that the erosion and chipping away, piece by piece, of the traditional advantages offered to men when we recruit them amounts to: "Changing the rules in the middle of the game."

It was the nation, and not the servicemen or the veterans, that initiated the policy of special benefits and privileges for servicemen and veterans so that, for comparatively niggardly pay, men could be induced to surrender themselves to assume special risks to protect the whole of society. The nation could not pay what such service was worth. So it said it would give, instead, certain guarantees which no other men could buy. The early colonies gave veterans preference in state jobs. Soldiers' homes were established, and the soldiers were told "We won't pay you much now — but so long as you live you will always have a roof over your head and three meals a day — no matter what misfortune befalls you."

In the years that have followed, nearly every advantage offered to servicemen and veterans has been a tacit part — and a most substantial part — of the contract signed by the nation to recruit men into its service.

Today, with reductions of these guarantees on every side, and vast pressures

for more reductions on every side — no specific reduction can be considered individually. Each proposed reduction is something larger than itself. It is to propose a breach of contract by the United States. It is to ask that we take away from a man, after he has signed himself to our service, what we offered him when we sought to gain his service.

The willingness of important segments of our society (like the AMA under its present leadership) to press for breaches of faith with our servicemen plays no small part in the present grave difficulties we are having in recruiting volunteers for the armed forces and the reserves.

Higley's Solution

Harvey Higley, Administrator of Veterans Affairs, thought he had a solution to the bickering over hospitalization of non-service-connected veterans. At the end of September he drew up a new form for veterans to sign in applying for such care. Instead of simply saying that they were unable to afford the care for which they applied, veterans making out the new form would give a detailed account of their personal finances and worth. (See these pages last month.)

For a month, the Budget Bureau held up Higley's new questionnaire, but on Nov. 5, final approval was given the new form and it went into effect.

Higley told the Legion's Nat'l Executive Committee in October that he felt the questionnaire would:

1. Arm the VA with sufficient information to permit it to scotch all false reports about the ability of veterans to pay for their own care.

2. Remind each veteran applying for non-service-connected care of the meaning of his statement that he cannot pay.

Commenting on the questionnaire, Nat'l Cmdr Connell said on November 10: "The policy of The American Legion is to support the program of hospitalization of veterans who (1) need such care for service-connected disabilities, and (2) are in need of this care for ailments not adjudicated as due to service and who are unable to pay for hospital treatment."

"The Administrator of Veterans Affairs has taken steps to tighten the procedure and protect those who have entitlement to hospitalization.

"There is nothing in the addendum to the application for hospital care that changes the eligibility. The Administrator has stated that the use of this additional statement should cause each applicant to focus his attention on his financial status 'and thereby give him a clearer understanding of the propriety of signing the oath of inability to pay.'

"As Nat'l Cmdr of The American Legion I believe the new procedure should be given a reasonable trial. The



Higley at NEC Meeting.

American Legion is committed to the preservation of the basic law establishing veterans' hospitalization. Moreover, its policy is to support any procedure that will insure the utilization of the limited number of beds available in the VA system."

MOVIES:

Strange Encounter

Scheduled for release by United Artists at the World Theater in New York on Armistice Day was the made-in-Italy film, "Stranger on the Prowl," starring Paul Muni.

Query to United Artists, which does not produce but distributes films, reveals that this is the film *Encounter*, with the title and some of the screen credits changed.

Release of *Encounter* was voluntarily held up late last year.

Last December, this magazine discussed a letter which the Hollywood American Federation of Labor Film Council had sent to Congressman John Wood of Georgia regarding *Encounter*.

Discussing that letter we said: "The Council's letter to Representative Wood reported that 'United Artists is contemplating release' of *Encounter* in America. The letter took no exception to Muni but said: 'This picture was produced by John Weber, identified as a full-time and long-active Party functionary in New York and Hollywood; and Bernard Vorhaus, also identified as a communist. It was directed by Joseph Losey, a fugitive from a House Un-American Activities subpoena. It was written by Ben Barzman, who also has been identified as a Party member. We urge you to take immediate steps to see to it that this picture is not shown in an American theater.'"

The names of Weber, Losey, Vorhaus and Barzman have been removed from the screen credits of the film under its new title of *Stranger on the Prowl*.

Arthur Krim, one of the directors of United Artists, says that his firm contracted for the distribution of the film before it discovered the record of the producers, director and author. Krim

told this magazine on Nov. 4 that his firm faces a lawsuit from financial backers of the film in Italy if it does not live up to its contract. Krim reports that United Artists is at present taking considerable pains to avoid contracting for the distribution of films in America that are made by European or American communists abroad, and is consulting with non-communist film unions in Europe for guidance.

Krim did not object to publicizing the change of screen credits. It was not done to deceive audiences, he said, but at the request of the Italian gov't which owns an interest in the film and objects to publicizing Weber, Vorhaus, Losey and Barzman.

The Italian gov't, said Krim, is now working hand in hand with United Artists to keep communists out of films made in Italy for American audiences.

But it insists that United Artists live up to its contract, Krim said, because the objectionable people have been paid their salaries and withholding the film now would injure the non-communist backers of the film who were hoodwinked.

"This is the last chapter of our mess with red film artists," said Krim. "We are now getting so much cooperation abroad to keep communists out of those of our films that are made there that we feel obliged to keep our contract with the people who are now cooperating with us."

EDUCATION:

Closer Together

The week Nov. 8-14 was American Education week. Purpose of the Week was to draw attention to fact that schools and adult community should keep in close touch with each other. On the national front, the Week was well observed. President Eisenhower proclaimed it. The Nat'l Education Ass'n, the U. S. Office of Education, the Nat'l Congress of Parents and Teachers, and The American Legion and radio networks boosted it.

In a radio broadcast, Nat'l Cmdr Connell pointed out that American Education Week was initiated by The American Legion in 1921. Then, as now, the Legion wanted to focus, once a year, public attention on the problems, needs and accomplishments of American schools—with broader aim of stimulating more all-year contact between citizens and schools.

Whether the special week was well-observed locally was not evident at presstime. But better liaison between laymen and their schools was, and would remain, as important as ever for several vital reasons:

1) To stop the trend in recent years toward "resolving" conflicts in education

by dividing America into "friends" and "enemies" of education. This dangerous piece of mischief tends to put teachers and citizens at each others' throats. It cannot survive close contacts on the community level which give educators and citizens a decent respect for each others' opinions and a common view of problems.

2) New school loads, now in the offing, require close understanding of school problems by all. Nat'l Legion Child Welfare Division reports that 1960 will see half again as many teen-agers as 1950, while heavy birthrate keeps crowding primary schools. These and other factors will bring controversies instead of solutions unless schools and citizens face problems together.

3) Attempts to subvert school programs and teaching philosophies will continue as long as a communist remains on earth. As educators are a prime target for subversion, they need all the strength they can borrow. A sense of community wishes gained through close and friendly contacts with citizens is a frame educators need to evaluate any sort of doctrine that is proposed to them.

BOOKS:

Legionnaires were not alone in thinking their new book was a good one. On Nov. 2 the *New York Daily Mirror* moved its book-review up to the editorial page and said the following under the head "The Legion's Inspiring Book:"

"A significant book for all who love America will go on sale Armistice Day, Nov. 11, and we take this opportunity to recommend it to our readers.

"It is 'The American Legion Reader' (Hawthorn Books, \$4.95), a compilation of the excellent material that has appeared over the years in The American Legion Magazine.

"The latter publication is devoted to the Legion's ideals of Americanism, and, in addition to being a patriotic journal in the finest sense, contains some of the best writing on sports, humor, adventure, international affairs, etc., to be found anywhere.

"Victor Lasky, co-author of the best-selling 'Seeds of Treason,' the exposé of the Alger Hiss case, has edited 'The American Legion Reader,' and has filled its 512 pages with exciting and inspiring works of lasting importance.

"We are happy to see that some of our own ace writers, including Walter Winchell, Victor Riesel, James Winchester, Billy Rose and Grantland Rice, are contributors to the volume.

"Its publication will add to the high prestige of the American Legion. We suggest the 'Reader' is a work most Americans will want to own. Many also will wish to purchase it for gift purposes.

The Legion will share in proceeds from the sale, using them to further its splendid programs of Americanism.

"We intend to do all we can to see that the sale is large.

"These pages stir one's pride of country. They affirm loyalty, courage and patriotism.

"We thank heaven that in a time of soft internationalism and foundering values, The Legion stands foursquare for those simple inspiring virtues — age-old but never old-fashioned!"

INTERNAL AFFAIRS:**Legion College Again**

After 7 years, The American Legion college will reopen at Legion Nat'l Hq in Indianapolis for a one-week term January 17-23. A special school for training Legionnaires in Legion and civic leadership, several sessions of the college were held in the years following WW2. The last was held in 1947. Graduates of the earlier colleges include a host of Department and National Legion officials of today.

A class of at least 49 was immediately assured when, at its October meeting, the Nat'l Executive Committee authorized re-opening of the college. The action included sponsorship by the national organization of one candidate from each of the continental departments, defraying all expenses of housing meals and text materials.

Nat'l Cmdr Connell urged at the time that each continental department sponsor at least one candidate itself, and invited individual posts to do the same. An enrollment of approximately 140 could be accommodated, though there would be some flexibility.

President of the college will be V. M. (Army) Armstrong of Indianapolis, C. M. Wilson, of the Nat'l Membership and Post Activities Section, will again serve as director.

The college will have a faculty of 15, selected from division heads of The American Legion in Indianapolis, Washington and New York.

The curriculum will be aimed at developing leadership, and will include American Legion history, finances, internal structures, law, accomplishments, policies, program activities and public speaking. Emphasis will be placed upon (1) the background, information and inspiration to assume leadership at different Legion levels and (2) a broader understanding of our constitutional form of government and living American traditions.

Cmdr Connell has written all department commanders and adjutants asking their cooperation in sponsoring The American Legion College.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:
Some Other Actions**

In addition to the several matters featured at some length on these pages, the Nat'l Executive Committee dealt with a host of other matters at its Oct. 15-17 meetings. Among these were the following:

► Nat'l officers were authorized to establish an American Legion Child Welfare Foundation, and to accept as its initial source of funds a gift of mineral and oil rights in 364 acres of land in the Williston Oil Basin of North Dakota and Montana. The donor: a WW2 vet long active in Legion Child Welfare, not anxious for publicity.

► Rules and regulations for conduct of Nat'l Conventions were drastically amended; plans for 36th Nat'l Convention in Washington, D. C. next Aug. 30-Sept. 2 were approved. Report that housing would be adequate was received.

► Budget for fiscal year 1954 of \$5,545,831 was approved.

► Employees retirement plan was amended to bring 16 former employees, retired under old plan, under new retirement plan.

► Three nat'l administrative employees were re-appointed: Henry H. Dudley, Nat'l Adjutant; Ralph Gregg, Nat'l Judge Advocate; Neal Grider, Nat'l Treasurer. In the 4th annual appointive office, Robert T. Fairey, 35, of Columbia, South Carolina, was named Nat'l Historian. Fairey is a member of Richmond Post 6, was winner of 1952 Department History Contest. Fairey succeeds Monte C. Sandlin, of Florence, Ala.

► Winners of the 1953 Post History Contest were announced by outgoing Nat'l Historian Sandlin. Winners in Type I (Posts chartered before 1943) were (1st) Ray Henry, Historian, Post 100, Rogers, Ark.; (2nd) Raymond A. Gray, Historian, Post 17, Greenville, Tex.; (3rd) J. C. Hambright, Historian, Post 50, College Park, Ga.

Winners in Type II (Posts chartered in 1943 or later) were (1st) Virginia J. Phelps, Historian, Post 49, Albuquerque, N. M.; (2nd) J. Harold Byrd, Historian, Post 233, Loganville, Ga. Honorable mention to James E. Marion, Historian, Post 216, Atlanta, Ga.

► Executive Committee approved all standing commission and committee appointments for the new Legion year. Total appointments are far too numerous to list. Chairmen are as follows:

National Commissions: *Americanism*, J. Addington Wagner, Battle Creek, Mich.; *Child Welfare*, George Ehinger, Dover, Del.; *Convention*, Harry L. Foster, San Diego, Cal.; *Economic*, Wilbur

C. Daniel, Danville, Va.; *Finance*, William J. Dwyer, Cortland, N. Y.; *Foreign Relations*, Rogers Kelley, Edinburg, Tex.; *Internal Affairs*, Charles L. Larson, Port Washington, Wise.; *Legislative*, Jerome Duggan, St. Louis, Mo.; *Publications*, John Stelle, Brazil, Ind.; *Public Relations*, Thomas E. Paradise, New York City; *Rehabilitation*, Robert M. McCurdy, Pasadena, Cal.; *Security*, Seaborn P. Collins, Las Cruces, N. M.

National Committees come under Commissions. Chairmen of committees are as follows:

Under Americanism:

Accident Prevention, Sam Rubin, Monroe, La.; *Boys State*, Harry M. Gambrel, Kansas City, Mo.; *Marksman*ship, Ben T. Watkins, Macon, Ga.; *Religious Emphasis*, Dr. Tom B. Clark, Buffalo, Okla.; *Sons of The American Legion*, Dorian E. Clark, Nashville, Tenn.; *Un-American Activities*, Dr. J. E. Martie, Reno, Nev.

Under Child Welfare:

Education of Orphans of Veterans, Henry Sherritt, Albuquerque, N. M.

Under Convention:

Contests Supervisory, Norton R. Ganger, Miami, Fla.; *Distinguished Guests*, A. L. Starshak, Chicago, Ill.; *Transportation*, W. N. Pippin, Wilmington, Del.

Under Economics:

Agricultural and Conservation, Elbert S. Rawls, Lewiston, Idaho; *Employment*, J. Ross Foust, Greensburg, Pa.; *Labor Relations* (to be named); *Housing*, Tom Moses, Pittsburgh, Pa.; *Veterans Preference*, Raymond R. McEvoy, Stoughton, Mass.

Under Finance:

Emblem, Julius Levy, Uniontown, Pa.; *Investments Policy*, A. E. McCormick, Mountain Lakes, N. J.

Under Foreign Relations:

Inter-American, Warren H. Atherton, Stockton, Cal.; *Special Committee on Covenant of Human Rights & United Nations*, Ray Murphy, N. Y.

Under Internal Affairs:

Constitution and By-Laws, James F. Green, Omaha, Neb.; *Graves Registration & Memorial*, Mancel B. Talett, Waukegan, Ill.; *Membership & Post Activities*, James E. Powers, Macon, Ga.; *Pilgrimage*, James J. Murphy, Washington, D. C.; *Trophies, Awards & Ceremonials*, Donald Johnson, West Branch, Iowa; *Resolutions Assignment*, Charles W. Griffith, Manning, S. C.

Under Security:

Aeronautics, William C. Doyle, Burlington, N. J.; *Civil Defense*, Niel R. Allen, Grants Pass, Ore.; *Merchant Marine*, Henry C. Parke, Brooklyn, N. Y.; *Military Affairs*, William S. Todd, Kingsport, Tenn.; *Naval Affairs*, Arthur F. Duffy, Queens Village, N. Y.; *Law & Order*, Col. George Mingle, Columbus, Ohio; *Security Training*, Granville S. Ridley, Murfreesboro, Tenn.



Nat'l Comdr Arthur J. Connell with Henry Ford II, Chairman of "Crusade for Freedom" before mock tank in which eight Czechs escaped from reds. Connell was attending Pentagon briefing, on conditions behind the Iron Curtain.

NAUGHT LEFT OUT:

A typo error on p. 26 of our Nov. issue left out an important naught. Item said 215 U. S. radio stations cooperate with Legion's Hometown USA program. Figure should have been 2,015.

POST DOINGS: Community Service

Legion enthusiasm for community service program is reflected in steadily mounting number of new projects reported to Nat'l Hq.

In Texas, 21st District gave seven TV sets to State School for Deaf with funds contributed by 16 Posts. In Stanton, Tex., Post 249 gave local school \$227 worth of intercom speakers to complete school communication system.

New York's Bronx County put Legionnaires on street intersections with Police cooperation to distribute 50,000 traffic safety leaflets. In nearby Brooklyn, Post 1060 started first drive for "Orphans Birthday Fund" to be given four orphans sponsored by major religious faiths. Post says everyone remembers orphans Thanksgiving and Christmas, forgets them rest of year.

Forreston, Ill., Post 308 played host to 35,000 visitors who ate three tons of franks and kraut on 34th annual Sauerkraut Day. In Iowa, Albert City, Post 299 with less than 100 members pledged \$1,000 to community swimming pool building fund.

In Marathon, Fla., Post 154 and its Auxiliary, which built Youth Center, got enthusiastic reception at opening day

(Continued on page 38)

IT SMELLS GRAND



HERE'S THE SEASON'S
FRAGRANCE HIT!

IT PACKS RIGHT



THERE'S LOTS
OF FUN IN LOADING IT!

IT SMOKES SWEET



AND MAN - WHAT PLEASURE
WHEN IT'S LIT!

IT CAN'T BITE!



SIR WALTER RALEIGH'S BLEND OF CHOICE KENTUCKY BURLEYS IS EXTRA-AGED TO GUARD AGAINST TONGUE BITE. THE LARGE SIZE CANISTER OF SIR WALTER RALEIGH - IN A BEAUTIFUL YULETIDE PACKAGE - MAKES THE PERFECT CHRISTMAS GIFT!

Styles in Legion Post Homes



Post 71, Lake Wales, Fla. \$40,000 Spanish modern



Post 47, Havre de Grace, Md. Built 1737



Post 156, Choccolocco, Ala. Home-built for \$18,000



Post 7, Humacao, P. R. \$15,000 Modern tropic

(Continued from page 37)
ceremonies from civic and Naval officials for their contribution to community life.

In October 30 members of Maywood, N. J. Post 142 painted uniform, white-on-black house numbers on the curb in front of each of Maywood's 3,000 homes and received loud approval from local populace and everyone looking for a street address in that suburban town.

Post 105, Decatur, Ill., provided every school in its county with patriotic plaques and copies of the book "You and the Constitution." Mercer County American Legion in New Jersey made a community service project out of a drive to deactivate war trophies brought home by vets. Cooperation of Trenton, N. J., Police Department has been given by city authorities.

As projects mounted in numbers and

enthusiasm, Nat'l Public Relations Div. urged Posts and Depts. to forward details to them. Continuing publicity on community service projects tends to spark new ones by other Posts looking for way to help.

Building Boom

As 1953 drew to a close, steady three-year rise in Legion membership was reflected in rash of new Post homes. Across the country the Legion was building to care for its own and community needs. Most recent report showed wide range of plans and costs for new Post homes.

In Urbana, Ohio, Post 741 bought an old mill building for conversion, while in West Milton, Ohio, Post 487 started on a Quonset-type structure.

Post 115, Hettinger, N. Dak., completed new home and Post 33, Biloxi, Miss., approved final building plans. Post 169, Tiffin, Ohio, dedicated new \$65,000 home and Post 240, Martin, S. Dak., awarded \$110,000 contract for its new building.

Post 26, Hobbs, N. Mex., decided on a brick home. At Logan, Utah, Post 7 planned to build against the south wall of Logan Canyon. Eden Prairie, Minn., Post 409, and Post 47, Calhoun, Ga., came through with plans for new structures.

From Puerto Rico came news of the first American Legion clubhouse on the island — built at Humacao by Post 7 for \$15,000. Members of Post 126 in Cliffside Park, N. J., were finishing a new Post home with their own labor.

In late Oct., Post 210, Danville, Ill., dedicated its \$75,000 home. Guests included Past Nat'l and Dept. Cmdrs., congressman, state and local officials.

Most ambitious of new buildings reported and one designed to fill a community need was the Greenport, N. Y., Post 185 American Legion Hall built for \$150,000. Dedicated on Armistice Day, the building serves as community recreation center.

1954 ROSTER OF DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

DEPARTMENT	COMMANDER	ADJUTANT	NAT'L EXEC. COMMITTEE
ALABAMA	Charles W. Eiland Andalusia, Alabama	Joseph M. Dickerson Box 1069, Montgomery, Alabama	Hugh W. Overton Wadley, Alabama
ALASKA	Foster R. Sims P. O. Box 1853, Palmer, Alaska	Alfred L. Zenger, Sr. (Temporary) P. O. Box 2317, Juneau, Alaska	John Van Horn Box 3, Sitka, Alaska
ARIZONA	Timothy R. King 1620 E. Linden, Tucson, Arizona	Clayton B. Orth 723 W. Polk Street, Phoenix, Arizona	John R. Stille P. O. Box 1511, Tucson, Arizona
ARKANSAS	G. M. LaMair Fayetteville, Arkansas	John L. Vance 202 Glover Building, Little Rock, Arkansas	Sam Rorex 2006 Fair Park Boulevard, Little Rock, Arkansas
CALIFORNIA	William R. Burke 403 West 8th St., Los Angeles, California	Gordon A. Lyons 117 War Memorial Bldg., San Francisco, California	Jack Ahern 839 Talbert Street, Martinez, California
CANADA	Pam Wendt 235 Alderbreath Ave., Alderwood, Toronto 14, Ont., Canada	L. O. LaPlante Room 320, University Tower, Montreal, Quebec, Canada	John B. Finnigan Room 12, Dom. Sq. Bldg., Montreal, Que., Canada
COLORADO	Ward Rogers Estes Park, Colorado	M. L. Lyckholm 116 State Office Bldg., Denver, Colorado	William R. Egan 1102 Racine, Denver, Colorado
CONNECTICUT	James H. Steinson Westbrook, Connecticut	Charles L. Parker State Office Bldg., Hartford, Connecticut	Joseph G. Leonard 32 Maher Rd., Stamford, Connecticut
DELAWARE	Thomas W. Mulrooney 511 W. 8th St., Wilmington, Delaware	Thomas B. Egan P. O. Box 1186 (Dravo Bldg.), Wilmington, Delaware	Dr. Carl J. Rees R. D. No. 2, Christine Manor, Newark, Delaware
WASHINGTON, D. C.	Dr. (Rev.) William F. Adams 433 3rd St., N.W., Washington, D. C.	Byron E. Dunn 433 3rd Street, Washington, D. C.	Lee R. Pennington 4720 Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington, D. C.
FLORIDA	Joseph A. Boyd, Jr. 166 Hialeah Drive, Hialeah, Florida	Ernest A. Rowton City Adm. Bldg., P. O. Box 726, Tallahassee, Florida	E. Meade Wilson Mulberry, Florida
FRANCE	Lloyd H. Cornwall 49 Rue Pierre Charron, Paris 8e, France	John K. Kingsley 49 Rue Pierre Charron, Paris, France	Sedley Peck Azusa, California
GEORGIA	A. Sydney Dodd, Jr. 23 N. Main St., Statesboro, Georgia	Robert M. Joiner 1428 Ponce de Leon Ave., N.E., Atlanta, Georgia	Guy O. Stone Glenwood, Georgia
HAWAII	Fred W. Carter, Jr. 612 McCully St., Honolulu, T. H.	Harold C. Hill (Acting) 612 McCully Street, Honolulu 14, T. H.	Phillip M. Carboy Room 402, Dillingham Bldg., Honolulu, T. H.
IDAHO	Austin G. West Plummer, Idaho	Samuel E. Vance, Jr. 204½ N. Capitol Blvd., Boise, Idaho	Sidney E. Smith 214 Powell Bldg., Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
ILLINOIS	Edward Dicmeyer 201 W. Herrin St., Herrin, Illinois	Leonard W. Esper McBarnes Building, Bloomington, Illinois	Perce F. Brantigan 7306 Oglesby Ave., Chicago 49, Illinois
INDIANA	Roy M. Amos 777 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, Indiana	Frank J. Myers 777 N. Meridian Street, Indianapolis, Indiana	John C. Wilson R. R. 9, Bloomington, Indiana
IOWA	Robert H. Loonsberry McCallsburg, Iowa	R. J. Laird Argonne Armory Building, Des Moines 9, Iowa	Theodore E. Murphy Ida Grove, Iowa
ITALY	John J. Fornacca American Express Company, Rome, Italy	Carmine Casolini Via Sistina 30, Rome, Italy	H. Armand deMasi New York Journal American, 210 South St., New York, N. Y.
KANSAS	John P. Nation 20 S. Larson, Chanute, Kansas	Irvin L. Cowger Memorial Building, Topeka, Kansas	Guy E. Holt, Jr. 124 E. 4th, Hutchinson, Kansas
KENTUCKY	George D. Miller Bardstown, Kentucky	T. H. Hayden War Memorial Bldg., Louisville, Kentucky	Charles M. Blackburn Versailles, Kentucky
LOUISIANA	L. W. Dawson 442 Canal St., New Orleans, Louisiana	Matt Monaghan 720 Union Street, New Orleans 12, Louisiana	Dr. A. R. Choppin LSU, Baton Rouge, Louisiana
MAINE	Ralph M. Merrow 23 Main Street, Newport, Maine	James L. Boyle 104 Main Street, Waterville, Maine	Peter A. Thaaimm 32 Bowdoin St., Winthrop, Maine
MARYLAND	J. Edward Walter War Memorial Bldg., Baltimore 2, Maryland	Daniel H. Burkhardt War Memorial Building, Baltimore 2, Maryland	Frank T. Powers 114 Wood St., Frostburg, Maryland
MASSACHUSETTS	Coleman L. Nee 32 Walton Street, Dorchester, Massachusetts	A. Leo Anderson Room 159, State House, Boston, Massachusetts	Frederick L. Mellin 74 Fletcher St., Roslindale, Mass.
MEXICO	Norbert W. Schmelkes Francisco Diaz Covarrubias 5, Mexico City 4, Mexico	Bruce D. Knoblock Apartado Postal 107, Bis., Mexico City, D. F., Mexico	Andres J. du Bonchet, Jr. % General Mtrs., Apartado 107 Bis., Mexico City, D. F., Mexico
MICHIGAN	Billy R. Wickens 2491 Sasse Rd., Midland, Michigan	Lisle H. Alexander 422 Veterans Memorial Bldg., 151 W. Jefferson, Detroit, Michigan	Arthur H. Clarke 268 Center St., South Haven, Michigan
MINNESOTA	Nate V. Keller First Natl. Bank Bldg., Virginia, Minnesota	Carl Gramming 600 Shubert Building, St. Paul 2, Minnesota	Carl L. Lundgren 2870 Holmes Ave. South, Minneapolis 8, Minn.
MISSISSIPPI	Sam W. Waggoner, III Newton, Mississippi	Frank W. Chambers Box 688, War Memorial Bldg., Jackson, Mississippi	R. D. Morrow Brandon, Mississippi

continued on next page

DEPARTMENT	COMMANDER	ADJUTANT	NAT'L EXEC. COMMITTEE
MISSOURI	James B. Kerigan 235 Ward Parkway, Kansas City, Missouri	James S. Whitfield 314 Madison Street, Jefferson City, Missouri	Truman L. Ingle Fulton, Missouri
MONTANA	W. Charles Wallace 903 West 3rd, Anaconda, Montana	Herbert Kibler Box 1147, Helena, Montana	Walter Barnard 223 Medical Arts Bldg., Butte, Montana
NEBRASKA	Clark O'Hanlon Blair, Nebraska	R. C. Patterson State Capitol, Lincoln, Nebraska	John E. Curtis 1401 O Street, Lincoln, Nebraska
NEVADA	Ed M. White, Sr. Wells, Nevada	Victor F. Whittlesea 136 Pine Street, Reno, Nevada	Thomas W. Miller P. O. Box 1786, Reno, Nevada
NEW HAMPSHIRE	Walter Johnston 781 Sagamore Avenue, Portsmouth, New Hampshire	Frank N. Sawyer Room 407, State Office Bldg., Concord, N. H.	James W. Doon Henniker, New Hampshire
NEW JERSEY	Raymond Clyburn 1042 Bloomfield St., Hoboken, New Jersey	Morris W. Kuzbyt Memorial Bldg., Stacy Park, Trenton 10, N. J.	William G. McKinley 44 Kensington Ave., Jersey City, N. J.
NEW MEXICO	James A. Tadlock P. O. Box 475, Albuquerque, New Mexico	Robert M. Marr 3205 Central Avenue, N.E., Albuquerque, New Mexico	Reed Mulkey Box 895, Roswell, New Mexico
NEW YORK	Paul S. Samuels 54 Market St., Poughkeepsie, New York	Maurice Stember 31 Chambers Street, New York 7, N. Y.	Leo V. Launing 112 State Street, Albany, New York
NORTH CAROLINA	W. L. McMillan 1208 Beal St., Rocky Mount, North Carolina	Nash D. McKee Box 2509, Raleigh, North Carolina	Robin S. Kirby Box 1086, Charlotte, North Carolina
NORTH DAKOTA	Howard F. Doherty Killdeer, North Dakota	Jack Williams Box 1748, Fargo, North Dakota	William Stern Box 671 Fargo, North Dakota
OHIO	Howard C. Kingdom P. O. Box 37, Conneaut, Ohio	Joseph S. Deutschle 1373 E. Broad St., P. O. Box 57, Sta. E., Columbus, Ohio	Rositer S. Williams P. O. Box 361, Oak Hill, Ohio
OKLAHOMA	James W. Rodgers, Jr. 121 N. Lowe, Holdenville, Oklahoma	Elmer L. Fraker Box 3037, State Capitol, Oklahoma City 5, Oklahoma	Ike Crawford 130 W. Randolph, Enid, Oklahoma
OREGON	Dallas E. Nollsch Route 1, Box 114 D, Portland 9, Oregon	Joseph P. McDonald 429 S. W. Fourth Ave., Gen. George A. White Bldg., Portland 4, Oregon	Hollis C. Hull Box 366, Albany, Oregon
PANAMA, C. Z.	John L. McDermott Box 583, Gatun, C. Z.	Alfred Hansen Box 553, Fort Davis, Canal Zone	Nelson W. Magner Box 373, Margarita, C. Z.
PENNSYLVANIA	Paul R. Selecky 16 N. Franklin St., Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania	Daniel W. Shaub 1825 N. Front Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania	William L. Windsor 1222 North 3rd St., Harrisburg, Penna.
PHILIPPINE IS.	Sherman W. Jones ACAN Primary Relay Station, 8243rd Army Unit, APO 928, C. P. M., San Francisco, California	Andrew D. Gruber Rm. 215 Calvo Bldg., 60 Escolta, Manila, P. I.	Andrew R. McKelvie % Army-Navy Club, Manila, P. I.
PUERTO RICO	Edmundo Cuchi Coll P. O. Box 1889, San Juan 9, Puerto Rico	Jose M. Pizarro P. O. Box 1889, San Juan 9, Puerto Rico	Ramon R. Ginas Box 811, San Juan, P. R.
RHODE ISLAND	Robert J. Bergon 118 Pinehurst Avenue, Providence, Rhode Island	Lee A. Lemos 42 Smith St., Riverside 15, Rhode Island	John A. Ryer 22 Walnut St., East Providence 14, Rhode Island
SOUTH CAROLINA	Martin K. Rosefield Sumter, South Carolina	J. J. Bullard 1705 Hampton St., Box 355, Woodrow Wilson Home, Columbia, S. C.	E. Roy Stone, Jr. Box 444, Greenville, South Carolina
SOUTH DAKOTA	H. A. Niclson 803 Kansas City Street, Rapid City, South Dakota	Walter Travis Watertown, South Dakota	Claude A. Hamilton 512 Security Natl. Bldg., Sioux Falls, So. Dakota
TENNESSEE	John J. Duncan 204 Flatiron Bldg., Knoxville, Tennessee	W. R. "Bob" Looney 323 7th Avenue, N. Nashville, Tennessee	Bert B. Barnes, Jr. Bells, Tennessee
TEXAS	L. E. Page Box 485, Carthage, Texas	G. Ward Moody 1500 N. Congress Avenue, P. O. Box 2206, Austin, Texas	H. J. Bernard 549 Esperson Bldg., Houston, Texas
UTAH	William Sutter Roosevelt, Utah	J. Lloyd Wignall 115 State Capitol, Salt Lake City, Utah	Victor J. Bott 325 East 4th North, Brigham City, Utah
VERMONT	Edward H. Giles Hartland, Vermont	Emilio S. Iglesias Box 396, Montpelier, Vermont	H. Nelson Jackson 158 So. Willard St., Burlington, Vermont
VIRGINIA	Dr. Thomas S. Ely P. O. Box 115, Jonesville, Virginia	Charles L. Kessler Broad-Grace Arcade, Richmond 19, Virginia	Lemanuel W. Houston Postmaster, Fredericksburg, Virginia
WASHINGTON	Jasper A. Reynolds 1144 Alvorado, Walla Walla, Washington	Fred M. Fuecker Legion Memorial Bldg., 620 University St., Seattle 1, Wash.	Frank O. Sether P. O. Box 747, Olympia, Washington
WEST VIRGINIA	E. Gaujot Bias P. O. Box 619, Williamson, West Virginia	Tommy E. Jones P. O. Box 3191, Charleston 32, West Virginia	Dr. P. E. Kerchival Kingwood, West Virginia
WISCONSIN	Gordon W. Roselip Darlington, Wisconsin	Robert G. Wilke 812 East State Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin	Kenneth L. Greenquist 510 Monument Square, Racine, Wis.
WYOMING	Charles F. York, Jr. 139 N. Second, Douglas, Wyoming	W. W. Hale, Jr. Box 555, Cheyenne, Wyoming	Lyle Poole Torrington, Wyoming

AVAILABLE SERVICES:

Posts will find the many publications and other aids issued by Nat'l Hdqs. invaluable in explaining Legion programs and policies to membership prospects. To Post officers with a job to do, the material provides the combined experience and knowledge of the Legion's experts in complex and difficult fields.

Information and help on Americanism, child welfare, rehab, national security, publicity, membership and Post activities can be had without cost or for a nominal charge. The list includes:

National Security Newsletter. Published monthly by National Security Commission with special issues from time to time. No charge. Write National Security Commission, The American Legion, 700 N. Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis 6, Ind.

The Firing Line. Background material, news and latest developments on anti-subversive work throughout the world. Prepared by National Americanism Division. Issued twice a month. \$3.00 for a year's subscription. Write Nat'l Americanism Commission, The American Legion, 700 N. Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis 6, Ind.

Programming for Legion Leaders. Help for Post officers in planning activities and meetings and keeping abreast of current Legion work. Issued monthly to all Dept., District and Post Cmdrs.

Help for the Post Publicity Officer. An outline of elementary publicity procedures which every Post should have. Available for 10 cents from National Emblem Sales, The American Legion, 700 N. Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis 6, Ind.

Post Service Officer's Manual. All the information and data needed by service officers. Available without cost to Posts through their Dept. Hdqs.

Child Welfare Guide. Published annually and available without cost from Nat'l Child Welfare Commission, 700 N. Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis 6, Ind.

Need a Lift? A list of scholarships available to orphans of vets and information on promotion of education for them. No charge. Available from Child Welfare Commission, The American Legion, 700 N. Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis 6, Ind.

Rehab Leaflets. Three leaflets giving membership workers information on Legion's rehab work. Available to Posts through their Dept. Hdqs. at no charge. **News Clipsheet.** Issued monthly with special issues from time to time. Contains material for Post papers and community newspapers together with other publicity aids. Available without cost from Nat'l Public Relations Division, 700 N. Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis, Ind.

Convention Film

The fast-paced, newsreel presentation of the 1953 St. Louis Convention filmed

in full color and sound by Schenley Posts in cooperation with Nat'l Public Relations Division has just been released.

Posts and Depts. can get film from Gerald Kirshbaum, Schenley Distributors, Inc., 350 Fifth Ave., New York, N. Y. No charge for picture but Posts remote from company's field offices must pay shipping costs.

Requests are filled in order received and should include two or three alternate d.tes. Legion's more than 17,000 Posts will share 125 available films.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS:

Jobs, honors, activities: To Past Nat'l Vice-Cmdr *Adolph F. Bremer*, city editor of Winona, Minn. Republican Herald, Award of Merit from Inland Daily Press Assoc. for coverage and handling of local government news . . . VA appointments; *Ralph H. Stone*, Past Cmdr of Ohio, 1940-41, to be Deputy Administrator for Veterans Benefits; *Henry W. Longfellow*, Past Cmdr George Washington Post, Washington, D. C., to be Assistant Administrator for Administration . . . General *John E. Hull*, member Post 298, Greenfield, Ohio, new UN chief in Korea and Cmdr United States Far Eastern Command . . . New Dept. Adjutants; *John L. Vance*, Arkansas; *Joseph P. McDonald*, Oregon.

Died: Sept. 5, *James B. Drew*, Chief Justice Penna. Supreme Court and charter member, Post 5, Pittsburgh, Penna. . . Sept. 30 at Ripley, W. Va., *Marion Pfost*, Past Vice-Cmdr W. Va. Dept. 1935-36 . . . Oct. 4, *Charles E. Morris*, Dept. Adj. of Hawaii and Past Dept. Cmdr 1943-44 . . . Oct. 12 at Caspar, Wyo., *Oscar B. Rohlff*, Past Dept. Cmdr 1943-44, member NEC 1946-48, Nat'l Vice-Cmdr 1951-52 and currently member Nat'l Foreign Relations Comm.

Oct. 27 at Delphi, Ind., *John A. Cartwright* member of Nat'l Public Relations Comm. *Guy M. Cox* on Oct. 29 at Iron River, Mich. Member of NEC 1949-51 and currently member of Liaison Committee for Publications.

Critically Injured: Ramon Guas, NEC member from Puerto Rico, in air crash at New York's Idlewild field while returning home from NEC meetings.

RELIGION:

Nat'l Cmdr Connell on October 17 appealed to the Legion's 17,196 Posts to contribute at least two dollars each to the program to build a "spiritual wall" of wooden churches along the communist Iron Curtain border in Europe.

Non-denominational, non-profit, the Wooden Church Crusade is designed to rebuild the West German churches destroyed by the war. The organization, headed by radio commentator Fulton Lewis, Jr., proposed to construct new churches at a cost not to exceed \$25,000 for each.

NEC voted unanimous approval of the resolution introduced by Nat'l Chaplain Tom Clark to support the Crusade and this was followed immediately by the Cmdr's appeal. Emphasizing the close link between help to the spiritual welfare of non-communist West Germany and the Legion's own Back to God movement, the Cmdr asked for funds to build at least one church in the name of The American Legion.

Posts and individual Legionnaires can send their contributions to the National Treasurer, The American Legion, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis 6, Ind. for forwarding to the Wooden Church Crusade.

COMRADES IN DISTRESS

Army

Co. M 17th Signal Operations Battalion — M Sgt. Andrew E. Doyle, Regular Army, retired May this year, present address unknown. Sister receiving his mail would like some lead as to his whereabouts. Write **Mrs. Raymond E. Adams**, 2929 Cotman Street, Philadelphia 24, Pa. with any information you have.

World War I — Frank J. (Vita) Bubenik, formerly of Moulton, Texas, wanted for settlement of estate. Last known to be in Fresno, Calif. in 1922. Write **Mrs. Mary (Vita) Palla**, 304 Oscar Street, Taylor, Texas.

12th Armored (Hellcat) Div., Co. C, 66th A. I. Bn. — Need to contact doctors, nurses or servicemen who remember me in hospital in Nancy, France, Feb. 1945 or Lincoln, England, April 1945 with bullet wound in right leg. Need help to establish claim. Write **Ervin Floyd Cheatum**, R.R. #1, Ellington, Illinois.

Rough Riders, Spanish-American War — Widow of Hugh Wilson Howard who served with Teddy Roosevelt after enlisting at Corral, Texas, needs help from those who served with him to establish pension claim. Write **Mr. K. R. Biggs**, 307 Rhyne, Booneville, Arkansas.

679th Medical Collecting Co., ATF #9 — Need to hear from Lt. Millard F. Norris, formerly of Buckley, Ill., who knew of my arthritic condition while in the Aleutian theatre. Claim pending with VA. Write **Melvin A. Mattson**, 474 Earl St., Saint Paul 6, Minn.

Co. McClellan, Ala. — Anyone who remembers my falling from a rope on an obstacle course in March 1945, please write **Ljubomir J. Skrabanja**, 121 Garfield St., Central Falls, R. I. Need affidavit for claim.

Co. A, 370th Combat Engrs. or 343rd Engrs. (Africa or Europe) — Anyone who served with Charles Meade, please write **Mrs. Charles Meade**, 161 Middletown Gardens, Muncie, Ind. Need help with claim.

5th Field Artillery, Battery C (WWI) — Need to contact Mr. Botella who was in same unit with me in France, 1918-19. Claim pending. Write **Floyd A. Davison**, VA Hospital, North Little Rock, Ark.

276th Inf. Regt. Co. F France, 1945 — Need to contact Sgt. Forshaw or anyone knowing his present address. Have epilepsy from head injury. No record on file. Write **Allen H. John**, 136 E. Ave. 45, Los Angeles 13, Calif.

35th Div., 134th Inf., Co. K — Will anyone who knew Leo P. Bergstraser overseas, knew of his shrapnel wounds, and his being in hospital in England, please write his widow who needs help for widow's pension. **Mrs. Dorothy Bergstraser**, Box 212, Flaxton, N. Dak.

Navy

25th Special NCB — Former Sea Bees who served with me at Milne Bay, New Guinea, summer of 1945 and remember my being knocked overboard while unloading a Liberty ship. Especially shipmate knocked over with me and boom operator. Need assistance with claim. Write **Harold R. Marlow**, 1405½ South Monroe St., Muncie, Ind.

U.S.S. Simpson, Destroyer #221 — Need to locate shipmates who remember my injury aboard ship. Claim pending. Write **James Joseph Dungan**, 2821 West Mimensiona, Phoenix, Ariz.

U.S.S. Bremerton, Camp Parks, Calif. and ABRB Port Huene, Calif. — Want to locate following men who remember my nervous condition (Continued on next page)

(Continued from page 41)

and malarial effects as well as fall down ship's ladder. Last known address William J. Ware, Frosburg, Md., and George H. Wagner, Reading, Pa. Please write Mr. Lewis F. Williams, 107 East Fifth Street, Tilton, Ill.

U.S.S. Hyman & S.S. Cape Sandy — Will any of the following contact me to help establish claim for transfer to VA hospital. Lt. Robert Dames, Richard Silvestro RM 3/C, Los Angeles; Barker G.M. 1/C, New York City; Robert Patricia RM 1/C; Donald Harlan S 1/C (RM) Texas; Kyle Stevenson, North Carolina; Robert Caraway, South Carolina. Write Peter B. Smyth, 96-17 221 St., Queens Village, L. I., New York.

U.S.S. Tumult — Anyone who knows circumstances of death of James Harold Fletcher aboard ship in Adriatic Sea, Nov. 1952, please write. Widowed mother needs help for claim. A. V. Akin, Jr., Veterans Service Officer, P.O. Box 534, Tilton, Ga.

U.S.S. William P. Biddle — Anyone who knew Kenneth Otis Bridges in 1943-45 write Shelly Woodward, Allen Post No. 62, Louisville, Miss. Need help on claim.

V-12, U.S. Navy, Bucknell University, Pa. — Need to locate Steve Trinkle, Carl Van Hoozen last stationed there for help in claim now pending. Write Melvin Weddell, Box 238, Medora, Ind.

Air

93rd Bomb Wing (1947) — S Sgt. Gardner F. Kittridge who was in Hq. & Hq. Sqdn. at Merced, Calif., is needed for help in changing character of my discharge from Air Force. Believed to live in Flushing, New York. Write Howard E. Smith, 1256 N. Gardner St., Hollywood 46, Calif.

336th Bomb Group, 478th Bomb Sqdn. — Need to contact Capt. Neighbors, Medical Dept., with whom I served as ambulance driver from Jan. 1942 to May, 1943. Also anyone who remembers me as the only Indian in Group at Fort Meyers, Fla.; Page Field, Tampa; MacDill Field, or Avon Park Bombing Range. Known as "chief" or "smithy." Write Mr. Merinus Andrew Smith, R. 2, West DePere, Wisc.

MISSING IN KOREA

38th Inf., Co. F — Cpl. Marvin M. Shirer missing in action Nov. 27, 1950. Will anyone who has any information please write his mother, Mrs. George Shirer, 214 North Lincoln St., Aberdeen, So. Dak.

7th Inf., 31st Inf., Regt. Co. I — My stepson PFC Jimmie L. Dorser missing in action Nov. 1950. If you have any information concerning him, write Owen B. Hurley, Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army, 1709 Jackson St., Omaha, Neb.

5th Cavalry Reg. — Pvt. Donald R. Nullmeyer missing in vicinity of Mago-Ri, N. Korea since Nov. 5, 1951. Any information would be appreciated by his mother, Mrs. Hazel Nullmeyer, 622 Laura Ave., Peoria, Ill.

24th Inf., 21st Inf., Regt. Co. L — Cpl. Charles E. Boyer missing since July 11, 1950. Will anyone who knows the circumstances of his disappearance or has any information about him please write his mother Mrs. Olin Boyer, 553 So. Fair Ave., Benton Harbor, Mich. Also would like to contact parents of men in the same company.

25th Inf., Div., 35th R.C.T., Co. G — Our son Pvt. Lyman LeRoy Wilcox was killed somewhere in the Sonjan area on March 21, 1952. Will anyone who knows the circumstances of his death please write Mrs. Lyman B. Wilcox, 935 Gardner St., Poplar Bluff, Mo.

9th Inf., Regt., Co. H and 23rd Inf., Regt., Co. G — Corp. Donald Becker and PFC David F. Blosser respectively of these units. Corp. Becker missing since Nov. 1950 and PFC Blosser missing since Feb., 1951 are old friends. Anyone who has any information please write Robert Utter, 11539 Yale Ave., Chicago, Ill. or Mrs. Margaret Becker, 6554 Aberdeen, Chicago, Ill. Mother of Corp. Becker.

45th Inf., Div., 245th Tk. Bn., Co. B — Cpl. Walter C. Scott, Jr. killed in a jeep accident in or near Kundae-Ri, Korea. If you have any information please write his brother-in-law, Mr. Donald J. Davis, 28 Webster St., Lewiston, Me.

82nd A.A. Auto. Weapons Bn. (Self-Propelled) — PFC Gene D. Kingston, missing in the vicinity of Changdong-ni, S. Korea when his battery encountered enemy roadblock on Feb. 13, 1951. If you have any information please contact his parents, Mr. & Mrs. W. L. Kingston, Star Route, Kermitt, Texas.

2nd Div., 38th Regt., Co. C — Walter C. Fort missing in action since May, 1951. If you have any

information concerning him please write Mrs. W. H. Fort, 1841 Lincoln Ave., Chicago, Ill.

9th Inf., Regt., Co. K — Corp. Allen W. Smith missing in action Feb., 1951 in the vicinity of Chonow-ri, South Korea. If you knew or served with him will you write his mother Mrs. Albert Smith, 733 8th St., Waupaca, Wisc.

7th Cav. Regt., Co. A — Pvt. Ralph H. Davidter missing in action since Nov., 1951. Any news would be welcomed by his mother Mrs. Henry Jacobs, R. 2, Fults, Ill.

2nd Div., or 229th Signal Operations Co. — PFC Marvin G. Hamelin while on temporary duty with Turkish Brigade in North Hapchom, Korea reported missing in action June, 1951. Anyone who knew him please write Mr. & Mrs. Hamelin, North Troy, Vt.

2nd Div., Hq. Co., 9th Inf. — Sgt. Roy C. Johnson missing in action Dec., 1950 later, Aug., 1953, declared dead in POW camp. Will anyone who knew him or circumstances of his death, please write his parents Mr. & Mrs. Simon Johnson, R. 4, Locust St., Ottawa, Ill.

2nd Div., 38th Inf., Co. A — Sgt. Neal P. Cantrell was reported missing in action Feb. 12, 1951 and in August, 1953 reported as having died in POW camp. If any returned POWs knew him or have any information please write his mother, Mrs. Alta Cantrell, Galatia, Ill.

23rd Inf., Regt., Co. A — PFC Donald H. Johnson missing in action near Chorwon, N. Korea since Aug. 1952. Will anyone who knew him please write Mrs. David Z. Johnson, Longmont, Colo., Route 2.

2nd Div., 2nd Chem. Mortar Bn., Co. B — Will any men who knew Lt. William L. Bengtson missing since Nov. 2, 1950 2 or 3 miles north of Unsan, please write his sister Mrs. Bernard E. Hill, 201 W. Abbott St., Lansford, Pa.

180th Inf. Regt. Co. K — PFC Leonard D. (Bnd) Carlson missing in action July 15, 1953. Will anyone who has any information please write his parents, Mr. & Mrs. Leonard B. Carlson, Box 46, Carey, Idaho.

7th Cav. Regt., Hq. & Hq. Sq. — Our stepson, Frank W. Conarro, was killed in action Sept. 3, 1950 near Chichio, Myron, S. Korea. Will anyone who knew him please write Richard M. Robinson, 5454 N. Paulina St., Chicago 40, Ill.

38th FA Bn. Battery C — Pvt. Ewin Patten missing in action since Nov. 30, 1950. Will anyone who knew him or returning POWs who may know something of him please write his mother Mrs. Helen L. Patten, Cornell, Wisc.

2nd Div., 38th Inf. Regt., Co. G — Cpl. Edward H. Davis missing in action near Kunu-ni, North

Korea since Dec. 2, 1950. Will any returned POW who knows anything of him please write his mother Mrs. H. F. Davis, Rt. #1, Benton, Miss.

24th Inf. Div., 19th Regt., Co. H — Would like to hear from anyone who served with my son, PFC Wayne S. Radebaugh. He was missing in action near Taeson, July 20th, 1950 and three months later reported as killed in action. Any information would be appreciated by his parents, Mr. & Mrs. W. S. Radebaugh, 323 N. Adeline St., Bartlesville, Okla.

65th Inf. Regt., Co. I — My son Sgt. Alisanto Matos Santiago, known as "Charlie," was killed Sept. 21, 1952 at "Kelly" mountain. Will anyone having information concerning him please write his mother, Mrs. Aurora Santiago, Rosario, Puerto Rico.

7th Div., 32nd Inf. Regt., Co. C — PFC John (Jack) H. Ramakers reported missing in action March 25, 1953 on Old Baldy while on patrol. Nothing known of him since. If you have any information will you write Mr. & Mrs. Rudolph Ramakers, Genoa, Neb.

2nd Div., 30th Inf. Regt., Co. A — PFC Frank A. Dillon, Jr. missing in action the night of Feb. 11-12, 1951. Anyone who knew him or circumstances of his disappearance, please write Mr. & Mrs. Frank A. Dillon, 436 Brattle Road, Syracuse, N. Y.

2nd Div., 38th Inf. Regt., Co. A — Cpl. Daniel E. Cahalan missing since Feb. 12, 1951 in the vicinity of Hoengsong, S. Korea and later reported a prisoner in a North Korean camp. Would like to hear from any member of his unit who knew him and from his chaplain, Father James Carroll. Mrs. Margaret Cahalan, P.O. Box 502, Rockwell, Iowa.

7th Div., 17th Inf. Regt., Co. E — Cpl. Delbert J. Whalen reported missing July 8, 1953. Will anyone who knows details of his disappearance, please write Mary J. Murray, Court House, Darlington, Wisconsin.

POW Camp No. 2, N. Korea — Cpl. James H. Balls died July 14, 1951 of pulmonary tuberculosis. Will any returned POW from this camp who remembers Cpl. Balls please write his mother, Mrs. Melinda Balls Higby, 660 Second St., Phillipsburg, Kans.

2nd Div., 9th Regt., Co. E — Sgt. Willard M. Gibson missing in action Dec., 1950. One letter received from him in Aug., 1951 but no word since. Reported as dead by communists in Aug., 1953. Would anyone who knows circumstances of his death in POW camp please write his mother Mrs. Cecil Gibson, RR2, Terre Haute, Ind.

2nd Engr. CBN, Co. B — Cpl. Daniel U. Dunn missing in action on Chongchon River in the vicinity of Kiyang Dong, N. Korea since Nov. 28, 1950. Will any member of his unit please write his mother, Mrs. Mary M. Dunn, Silver Point, R. 2, Tenn.

25th Div., 35th Inf. Regt., Co. A — PFC Richard P. Swanson, a POW since July 20, 1950, reported to have escaped. No word ever received from him. Will anyone who knew him please write his parents, Mr. & Mrs. Peary Swanson.

2nd Engrs. (C) Bn., Co. A — PFC or Cpl. Paul E. T. McCoy reported by the communists as having died in their custody but not verified by U. S. Army. Missing since Dec. 1, 1950; last seen at road block near Kunu-ri. Will any returned POW who knew him please write his mother, Mrs. Louie Dell McCoy, Rt. 2, Ravenswood, W. Va.

2nd Div., 38th Inf. Regt., Co. G — Have received no official word about my son, Cpl. Maxie L. Gibson, reported missing Nov. 28, 1950 near Un-bong-dong, N. Korea. Will anyone who knows anything of him please write his mother, Mrs. Thedo Gibson, R. 2, Mullins, S. C.

24th Div., 19th Inf. Regt., Co. K — In two years since he was killed in action we have never heard from anyone who knew my brother, Cpl. Robert W. Manly. Reported killed June 27, 1951 near Chokkun-San, N. Korea. Will anyone who knew him please write Mrs. Mary L. Duras, 1742 Rosehill Drive, Chicago 26, Ill. This notice originally ran in Sept. issue but address was incorrect. If your letter was returned please mail again to above address.

OUTFIT REUNIONS

131st Infantry (All Wars) — Reunion, Chicago, Ill., Dec. 4; Chicago Avenue Armory. Information from Jack Richmond, Veterans Corps, 131st Infantry, Chicago Avenue Armory, Chicago 11, Ill.

U.S. Dixie (WWII) — Annual Reunion and banquet, Danville, Ill., April 7; Wolford Hotel. Contact Robert O. Levell, Box 163, New Castle, Ind.



NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 1953

A DIGEST OF EVENTS WHICH ARE OF PERSONAL INTEREST TO YOU

SPECIAL USGLI DIVIDEND NOT TAXABLE:

WW1 vets who shared in the \$64,000,000 special USGLI dividend melon cut by the VA beginning on October 15, get a break for once — they need not report such payment as income when they file their 1953 income tax report. . . . Dividend was paid to approximately 380,000 WW1 vets who have held their War 1 (USGLI) insurance in permanent type policies. . . . Amount of special dividend (in addition to the regular 1954 dividend now being paid) averaged about \$168, but the amounts paid to individual vets varied greatly depending upon plan of insurance, age at time policy was issued, length of time policy has been in force, and the amount of the policy. . . . Thus some shares of the melon were low, others ranged up near the \$375 mark. . . . Vets who have hung on to the 5-year term USGLI policies (and are now paying through the nose for their oversight in not converting) do not share in the special dividend. . . . Others excluded are holders of USGLI policies in force under extended insurance, and holders of permanent type policies issued during the 5 years prior to January 1, 1953. . . . Same tax exemption applies to dividends paid on WW2 insurance (NSLI) held by War 2 vets.

* * * *

DENTAL CARE FOR COMPENSATED VETS:

Another tightening of vet benefits becomes effective with the announcement by VA that only one-time dental treatment will be given to vets who have service-connected dental conditions or disabilities that are not severe enough to rate disability compensation. . . . However, limitation does not apply to veterans receiving disability compensation for service-connected dental troubles. . . . Nor does it apply to vets who require treatment for dental conditions, whether or not service-connected, which are found to be aggravating another service-connected disability. . . . Vets whose treatment for non-compensable dental troubles already has been completed will not be eligible for further treatment. . . . However, VA makes an exception for former prisoners of war. . . . POWs will receive as many dental treatments as needed to care for disabilities found to have been caused by their imprisonment. . . . One-time treatment for non-compensable service-connected cases may be provided by VA dental clinics, or VA may authorize fee-basis dentists to provide it.

* * * *

ARMED FORCES TO GIVE CHRISTMAS BREAK:

Army will suspend all activities, except basic training, for draftees from December 21 to January 4 to permit a maximum number of personnel to go home for Christmas and New Year's Day. . . . Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force will follow a similar policy. . . . Newly inducted draftees in basic training will have the holidays at camp for most part, but commanders will be authorized to adjust basic training

schedules to permit short leaves for trainees during the holiday season.

* * * *

NSLI DIVIDEND FOR 1954 COMING UP:

While completing payment of the 1953 regular NSLI dividend, VA Insurance Section is planning for the distribution of an increased dividend in 1954. . . . Two special dividends have been declared, the 1954 payment will be the third regular annual dividend. . . . 1953 slice for WW2 vets who held the maximum \$10,000 for the full 12 months averaged \$60. . . . 1954 share is expected to be increased for the reason that some 1,200,000 NSLI policyholders waived their premiums while serving in the Korean War — and thus were not eligible to get a check in 1952 and 1953. . . . With their return to civil life, and conditioned on resumption of payment on their policies, these vets will get their share in 1954. . . . WW2 and Korea vets hold approximately 6,500,000 NSLI policies. . . . Check is forwarded for dividend payment after the anniversary date of the policy, thus making the distribution a full-year program.

* * * *

VA HOSPITAL CONSTRUCTION:

VA has received approval of limited hospital construction plans which will permit the use of "no year" items in the appropriations for the current and previous fiscal years. . . . Bureau of the Budget has given green light on construction of hospitals at San Francisco, Topeka and Cleveland. . . . An increase in the funds for the Los Angeles (Sepulveda) hospital, now under construction, also was approved. . . . Addition of these four 1,000-bed hospitals to the VA system will make big dent in problem of providing care for mentally disabled vets, since each of them is to be basically an NP hospital. . . . Sepulveda hospital has been under construction for about a year. . . . Approved estimated cost is \$22,179,000. . . . Topeka hospital will replace one now in operation. . . . San Francisco hospital project calls for use of \$7,312,000 from current appropriation. . . . Site for Cleveland hospital has not been selected; approved estimate of cost is \$23,352,000. . . . Budget Bureau approval does not cover plan to add a 250-bed NP unit to the Houston, Texas, hospital.

* * * *

COURTS HAVE "WAS IT WAR" HASSLE:

Though the shooting hostilities in Korea have ceased, question of whether or not it was a war is still being battled in the courts. . . . Issue for most part involves payment by life insurance companies on policies carried by men who died in Korea. . . . Legal disputes arise because Congress never declared "war" in Korea. . . . Insurance companies, some of which had a "war clause" in their policies, say the Korean action was a war; the families of deceased policyholders contend that it wasn't and demand full payment under the insurance agreements, including in some cases double in-

demnity, when the policy carried such a clause, for accidental death.

In early October United States Supreme Court refused to review a Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruling that the Korean hostilities did not constitute a war in the "legal" sense. . . . The Pennsylvania high court ruling ordered the Pennsylvania Mutual Life Insurance Company to pay beneficiaries of one deceased soldier double indemnity, and another the full face-value of the policy. . . . U. S. Supreme Court's refusal to review this decision leaves the situation more confused than ever. . . . Lesser courts in California, Texas and New Jersey have ruled in favor of the insurance companies — that the fighting in Korea was a "legal war," and therefore voiding policies which had a war clause. . . . Many such cases are yet pending in courts in several States. . . . The issue will in all probability confront the U. S. Supreme Court again. . . . Meanwhile, until the hassle is straightened out the contrary rulings in the separate States prevail — not a war in Pennsylvania and other States, but a "legal war in the ordinary and usual meaning of the word" in California, Texas and New Jersey.

* * * *

TAX AID LOST TO NUTMEG STATE VETS:

Some thousands of Connecticut servicemen who served in the Armed Forces since the start of the Korean hostilities, but not in Korea itself, will not get the \$1,000 local property tax exemption other veterans of all wars receive in that State. . . . Intent was to abolish present law which provides for the property tax exemption to those who served "in the Korean theatre of operations" and substitute a clause extending the benefit to all who served in the Armed Forces after June 25, 1950. . . . Snafu occurred in committee in not inserting clause. . . . Action to care for excluded vets is promised for next session of Legislature.

* * * *

NAVY SHIPS HISTORIES READY:

Navy Department announces that short histories of about 1,500 of the Navy's ships active in WW2 are available for free distribution to former crew members. . . . An additional 2,500 remain to be written. . . . Requests for histories not yet complete can not be acknowledged, but the request will be kept on file and filled when the story is written. . . . More than three histories can not be mailed to any one person. . . . It is requested that once the request is made, the applicant refrain from writing about it — correspondence will only result in unnecessary paper work and will slow up deliveries. . . . Write Chief of Naval Operations, Division of Naval History (Op-29), Room 1534, Main Navy Building, Washington 25, D. C.

* * * *

STATUS OF K-VETS STILL MISSING:

Department of Defense has clarified the status of American servicemen who were still unaccounted for when the exchange of prisoners in Korea was completed on September 6. . . . In this category are 6,713 Army personnel, 78 Navy, 671 Air Force, and 493 Marines — a total of 7,955. . . . "All possible efforts are being made to obtain information as to their fate or whereabouts. . . . Such efforts include communication with the communist forces and interrogation of recovered prisoners," says the statement. . . . "In the light of casualty reporting experience in Korea, it is now the considered opinion of the Department of Defense that most of these men must eventually be presumed dead. . . . They

have not been so reported thus far because of strict requirements that there be reasonably conclusive evidence of the fact before a man is reported as having died." . . . It was emphasized that the conditions of battle in Korea made it impossible to recover and identify many of the battle dead. . . . No assistance was received in this respect from the opposing forces, which explains the very high "missing in action" figure in the Korean conflict.

* * * *

UPSWING IN GI HOME LOAN APPLICATIONS:

VA reports a sharp increase in applications for GI home loans in August and September — but appraisal requests for proposed dwelling units showed a decline during the same period. . . . 34,084 home loan applications were received in September, highest since April, 1951, reflecting an easing of the money market for GI loan mortgages, since under the program, a lending institution agrees to make the loan before submitting a loan application for guaranty to VA. . . .

* * * *

LEGION POSTS PRESENT SCHOOL MEDALS:

A total of 18,559 School Award Medals were presented by Legion Posts to pupils of public and parochial schools during the year ending July 31, according to a report of Allen Willard, Director of the Legion's Americanism Commission. . . . The Department of Mississippi topped the list of donors, with 1,144 Medals presented, and was awarded the Ralph T. O'Neil Trophy for 1953. . . . Director Willard urges that plans for the presentation of school awards for the 1953-54 school year should be started now. . . . A pamphlet has been prepared giving full details of the operation of this excellent youth Americanism program, free to Posts and Departments. . . . Write National Americanism Commission, The American Legion, Box 1055, Indianapolis, Indiana.

* * * *

WW2 VETS HOLD LEAVE BONDS:

Treasury Department says WW2 vets are holding on to \$51,116,175 in uncashed terminal leave bonds. . . . First issued in 1943 and continued until 1946, the bonds paid 2½ percent interest and were scheduled to mature in 5 years. . . . Last issue matured on October 1, 1951, when they ceased to bear interest. . . . Holders of the bonds may cash them at any bank, building association or similar agency. . . . But they must be presented by the owner with proper identification. . . . Treasury recommends that these bonds be cashed and the amount reinvested in U. S. Savings Bonds.

* * * *

DO YOU WANT AN OVERSEAS JOB?

Vets who want to get into Government service in jobs overseas can get full information on places open, and where to apply for them, in a pamphlet issued by the Civil Service Commission. . . . The booklet tells of Civil Service jobs only. . . . Most Government jobs are filled by the agency needing the employe. . . . Write Civil Service Commission, Washington 25, D. C., and ask for CSC Pamphlet 29.

* * * *

NAVY-MARINE VETS OCCUPATION MEDAL:

Navy and Marine vets with service in the Mediterranean and Eastern Atlantic area during the last 18 months will get their Naval Occupation Service Medals soon. . . . Though eligible personnel rated the ribbon and medal, they were unable to get the issue for lack of an official document authorizing it.



New Convertible features 335 h.p. V-8 engine, a removable top, adjustable steering wheel, and built-in hydraulic jacks.



Streamlined hard-top has doors that curve up into roof, making it easier to enter and leave. Note how bumper circles car completely.



American-designed, this new model was hand-crafted in Italy. Chrome-plated wire wheels add style, help cool brakes and tires.

How'd you like to drive one of these?

Auto-makers test experimental models today before putting their insignia on your car of tomorrow!

Sooner than you think, the car you drive may have the sleek look of tomorrow you see here!

To speed the day, auto-makers build dozens of experimental cars. They test, measure, add improvements.

And when tomorrow's production model rolls off the line, proudly wearing the maker's insignia, it will be handsome, efficient, right for your motoring needs.

Because the automobile manufacturer—like the maker of bobby pins, breakfast food or toasters—knows that if his brand name doesn't satisfy you, some other trademark will! So whenever you shop, name your brand—and better your brand of living!

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Exact Scale Model enables designers and engineers to coordinate mechanical needs, exterior style and interior comfort.



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THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE
580 Fifth Avenue, New York 36, N.Y.

LAS VEGAS' GOLDEN BOY

(Continued from page 25)

troit gamblers with a wistful yen to go "legit." They put up the dough to finish the Desert Inn.

That provides the only dissonant note in Wilbur's symphony of satisfied ambition—a slight feeling of discomfiture over being allied with some people of cloudy repute. "It was embarrassing at first," he says. "But they're nice guys, so what the hell." The fact that Wilbur did a spate of illegal gambling himself in his early days may also account for his gentle tolerance.

He still remains the largest single stockholder, president, general manager



"Couldn't you hear me yelling at you that Norvell's here?"

AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

and official host of the Desert Inn—a sort of Sherman Billingsley of the crap tables. And he plays the role of impresario with delight, verve and a cagey eye out for maximum publicity possibilities. This has prompted some of his detractors to regard him as a "grandstander." But Wilbur insists that "everything I do is good for the joint, even if it has my picture on it."

He sports a \$15,000 diamond ring, which he bought "very cheap" off a busted gambler. He also wears a \$4,800 platinum watch which he designed himself and had seven separate jewelers assemble for him. The links in the band represent each of the four aces and two sides of the dice—the five and the six, adding up to lucky 11. Silver dollars are embedded in the handles of his desk drawers and the knobs of his office doors.

Silver dollars, in fact, are a kind of Wilbur Clark trademark, as well as a commodity which he has shown a distinct talent for accumulating in substantial quantities. Some years ago, while he

was proprietor of another of Las Vegas' luxury hotels, El Rancho Vegas, he had 3,500 silver dollars struck off with his likeness on them. They cost him \$3.10 apiece. He distributed them among friends, celebrities and just plain people. He says Harry Truman still carries one for luck and claims that a sick girl sold her Wilbur Clark dollar for 200 bucks and paid off a hospital bill. "I later gave her another one," Wilbur says.

Lately he has been giving away roulette tables. They are foot-and-a-half working models of the table he designed especially for the Desert Inn. He has given miniature roulettes to such people as President Eisenhower, Justice Tom Clark, Senator W. Stuart Symington, Louella Parsons and Westbrook Pegler. Pegler, in his thank-you letter, remarked that "this will be the first time I have been on the right side of the table."

"Nevertheless," Peg concluded sadly, "I probably will get mangled in the spokes."

Wilbur sent another table to the late Generalissimo Stalin "to give him something to gamble with besides lives." But he thinks he recalls that the package came back unclaimed.

If all of this conveys the picture of a flashy, free-spending, swashbuckling king of the gambling halls, the picture is accurate only to a degree. Wilbur Clark is flashy enough, in a restrained sort of way, and certainly free-spending. But he is about as swashbuckling as the corner druggist, and looks more like the corner druggist than a king of the gambling halls.

He is 45 years old, of middling height, has silvery hair and an engaging smile, and wears only white shirts. Actually he bears a curious resemblance to Hopalong Cassidy and has, in fact, been

mistaken for Hoppy. That happened when Wilbur dressed up in western gear, and, carrying sacks of silver dollars to give away as souvenirs, flew east to spread the good word about the Desert Inn. "Oh, Mommy," said a little boy as Wilbur emerged from the plane at Washington, "there's Hopalong Cassidy." Wilbur wasn't at all displeased. He loves nothing better than attention, even if it has to be a case of mistaken identity.

He is still a little sensitive about his name, which he considers to be as bad as Elmer. "Up to the time I was 20, people would ask me my name and I'd sputter and stutter before I could get it out," he says. The fact that Lew Lehr called all his monkeys Wilbur in the newsreels only enhances Wilbur's embarrassment.

His free-spending qualities (some of his friends call it downright gullibility) have moved Las Vegans to describe him as "one of the easiest touches in the business." These qualities also have provoked some interesting stories.

One concerns the time when a foreign correspondent who was an old friend of Wilbur's cabled him from Hong Kong asking for \$1,800. He said it was to finance an operation. Wilbur sent the \$1,800, although he remarked thoughtfully to an assistant, "You know, I'm afraid that boy is gambling."

A short while later came another cable, this time from Monte Carlo. The supplicant now wanted \$2,000. He said he needed another operation—the first one hadn't been successful. Wilbur put off a decision and flew to the Coast. When he returned, the assistant asked him if he wanted to do anything about the sick friend in Monte Carlo.

"Well, I'll tell you," said Wilbur, a



"Now, approximately how dry did you wish to stay?"

AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

it's
the
flavour

... always
right



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trifle sheepishly. "I got to worrying about that boy. I figured maybe he *does* need the operation. So, while I was on the Coast, I sent the \$2,000."

This jaunty open-handedness of Wilbur's may be a compensation deriving from the fact that he never had much of anything to be open-handed with when he was a boy. His father was a mail carrier in Keyesport, a town east of St. Louis with a population of 400—approximately the size of the Desert Inn's present payroll.

But Wilbur had, if not delusions of grandeur, certainly premonitions of it. He gravely promised his mother he would become a millionaire.

He says now, however, that his most immediate ambition was just to "get out of that town." This he did by going to nearby Alton, Ill., where he worked briefly as an office boy. He left Alton in somewhat of a hurry, under circumstances which he cheerfully acknowledges to having involved an irate husband, and started thumbing west.

At Topeka, Kan., Wilbur went broke. At Las Vegas, N. Mex., having gone without food for three days, he found a kindly hash house proprietor who fitted him out for a steak and sent him on his way with a shiny silver dollar. At Los Angeles, Wilbur flipped the silver dollar to decide which way he would go next. Tails it was south, and he headed for San Diego.

There he toiled successively as a bus boy, an elevator operator and a bell hop. He says he earned \$1,000, his first month as a bell hop. That being the time of prohibition, Wilbur admits his services were not entirely confined to hopping bells. He says he not only delivered the stuff but even blended some of it in his own bathtub.

At Mission Beach, near San Diego,

he opened the first of a succession of cocktail bars. In 1938 he made his initial incursion into Las Vegas, buying a piece of a modest gambling hall on the edge of town. But the town was small and showed little promise of ever becoming otherwise. There wasn't any air conditioning to speak of, and Wilbur could see no future for a desert community without air conditioning—legalized gambling or no legalized gambling.

He went back to California and worked the gambling halls and gambling boats up and down the Coast. He "got pinched a few times," Wilbur says, but it was nothing very serious. That's a normal occupational hazard of a non-Nevada gambler, even when there is no Senator Kefauver around to stir up the dogs.

Wilbur still hasn't been quite able to break himself of his old pre-Nevada gambler's habit of referring to anyone who isn't in the gambling business as "legit." It is a habit which evokes small, nervous cluckings from his more polished associates at the Desert Inn.

In 1944 he returned to Las Vegas. Finding the air conditioning problem whipped and the joint jumping under the impact of war, he bought an interest in the Rancho Vegas with the profits from his cocktail bars. Later it became a controlling interest. He also opened a gambling hall called the Monte Carlo on downtown Fremont Street—Las Vegas' famed "Glitter Gulch."

It was at the Rancho Vegas that Wilbur had his closest brush with bankruptcy. A two-weeks' run of bad luck in the casino chewed his bankroll down to \$14,000. (Normal working bankroll of a big gambling hall is in the neighborhood of a quarter-million.)

"I was busted," says Wilbur. "Next morning I went out on the hustle selling

cocktail bars in San Diego. Two or three of my friends got me some money, too. Then I started winning again. The angels had their arms around me."

In 1946 he sold the Monte Carlo and his interest in the Rancho Vegas. Then he sank the money into the hole in the ground which, with a timely assist from the syndicate, became Las Vegas' costliest, most-talked-about palace of sport and the realization of a dream for Las Vegas' Golden Boy.

With the possible exception of the Atomic Energy Commission's recent fireworks displays, the opening of the Desert Inn was the biggest thing that ever happened to Las Vegas. Wilbur issued special invitations to 150 of his fellow Las Vegans, all of whom had credit ratings of \$10,000 or more, to come and try to take his money away from him. That they were something less than successful in the undertaking is indicated by the fact that the Desert Inn did a \$750,000 gross business one night alone during opening week.

Senator Kefauver did his bit to guarantee Wilbur's immediate success in the Desert Inn. He came to Las Vegas with members of his committee soon after the opening and called several of the local gambling satraps in for questioning, among them Wilbur himself.

"I was very dumb," says Wilbur, straight-faced. "And then at times I was very smart. But it was wonderful for me. I made the front pages, and every time they printed my name they said I was from Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn."

Kefauver was "very nice" to him, reports Wilbur, but Senator Tobey of New Hampshire was "a little rough—he made some pretty bad remarks about my partners."

"They've got it in their minds that a gambling man is a hoodlum," he protests, in tones of offended righteousness. "But Senators themselves must go to the race track, and play poker."

In spite of being endowed with more than his share of gambler's luck, as witness the coincidence of the Kefauver hearings and the Desert Inn's opening, Wilbur does little gambling himself nowadays. But, from an impresario's observation post, he watches the gamblers come and go, and he's convinced that the average man knows very little about gambling.

"He may win \$50 a day for 10 days," says the impresario. "But in the long run he'll lose it back, along with his car, house, bank account and wife."

The trouble with the average man, Wilbur goes on, is that he plays a scared game. He'll quit when he's winning ("I've seen 'em back off when the dice are hot"). But when he's losing, he'll lose indefinitely just trying to break even.

"The ordinary guy will stand to lose



"—and notice, Madam, the cute little service porch on the shady side of the house!"

three times as much as he'll stand to win," Wilbur sums up. "But the professional gambler will stand to win 20 times as much as he'll stand to lose."

That, in the temperate parlance of the gambling business, is what is known as the "unseen percentage." It is the never-failing ally of the gambling operator. "All you have to do is get customers," says Wilbur. "You're bound to win because the 'percentage' will work for you. A gambling house is just like a grocery store. You sell a can of beans and you make a certain percent. A gambling house gets a customer and makes a certain percent. One customer may beat you. But here come four more, and you'll beat them."

This comforting assurance that the proprietor of a luxury gambling house

WALLY



(From December, 1938 I.L.M.)

simply can't lose for winning may account for the fact that a group of moneyed men recently offered \$6,000,000 for the Desert Inn. Wilbur and his partners turned the offer down. But Las Vegas doesn't take this to mean that Wilbur and the syndicate, on the one hand, or Wilbur and the Desert Inn, on the other, are wedded until death do them part.

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THE END



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RUSSIA'S BIG BLUFF

(Continued from page 15)

in the Far East, and advised strongly against it. Their report, submitted to the War Department on April 12, 1945 warned that Russian help was not needed and that "if Russia enters the Asiatic war, China will surely lose her independence."

Ignoring its own experts, the United States spent the Spring months of 1945 in continued beseechments of Russia to march its troops into China—something which American Far East policy had schemed to prevent for fifty years. The Russia-firsters who were then deciding our China policy justified this curious course by arguing that we couldn't keep Russia out of the Japan war, anyhow, so great was the strength of its Far East Army. What they did not disclose, until after the war, was that Russia would have had no Far East Army at all if we had not equipped it to the tune of \$1,500,000,000 Lend-Lease under the agreements reached at the Moscow Conference of 1944.

In the end, Russia came in for a five-day war with Japan, after we had dropped the Hiroshima bomb, and set in train a series of events which finally delivered China to communism. And yet American public opinion—wrong about Russia then, as it is now—applauded this epochal disaster to the Free World, when it happened.

The same vicious circle operated in the China tragedy. In 1947, when General Wedemeyer made his long-suppressed report, China, outside Manchuria, could still have been saved by American intervention. Again, in 1948, when President Chiang made his November appeal to President Truman,

there was still a chance to save all central and south China below the Yangtse, if the United States had been willing to make a firm announcement of American guarantee of the Yangtse River line (similar to subsequent guarantees which we gave to South Korea and to Indo-China). Both of these historic opportunities were lost as a result of the shrill cry of both statesmen and journalists that we couldn't do this because it would bring Russia into the war.

At the time, Russia had about as much intention, or ability, to enter the China war as to attempt a trip to the moon. But we allowed our phobias to frighten us into the belief that she would do so. The whole ghastly "Hands off" China policy was supported until after the Korea eye-opening by an American public which had been drugged by the editorial, radio and Washington chatter that any other course would involve us in immediate shooting war with Soviet Russia. Communism reaped an unexpectedly rich harvest in China from our gullibility.

But it will be asked, when we question Russia's readiness, what are the evidences for our doubts? How can we be certain that Russia is not planning war now? The gravity to America of a mistake on this issue compels the most careful consideration of the known facts.

Probably the strongest indication of Russia's unpreparedness is the fact that she has not already started war, even under extreme provocation. The supposition that a nation which was strong enough to seize her objectives now,

would deliberately wait until 1970, or thereabouts, simply doesn't hold water. Even dictatorships are not capable of such self-control. Certainly, not ideological dictatorships.

As a matter of fact, Russia's whole course since the beginning of the Cold War has been that of a nation guardedly careful to avoid a military collision with the United States. She has accepted a painful series of rebuffs and challenges, at the hands of America and its allies, and although she has talked sulphurously, she has backed down in every instance. There has been a pretext for World War III in a dozen situations which have flared up vividly since 1945.

It has been commonly assumed, because of its spectacularity, that the American intervention in Korea in 1950 was the incident which has brought us nearest to war with Russia since 1945.

What is not generally realized is that the United States has repeatedly clashed with Russia since V-J Day at friction points far more vital to Russian interests and security than Korea, and the Kremlin has consistently backed down. Let us cite a few.

(1) *Berlin*. Russian interests in Germany are many times greater than any interest which she possesses in the Far East. If Russia could be tempted to fight for any immediate objective, Germany, with its Ruhr, would be the first lure. Hence, the American defi in the Berlin airlift touched Moscow at a raw point. That the United States walked up to the very brink of war in Berlin and emerged unattacked is the tip-off to Russia's real state of preparedness. In accepting defeat in the Berlin airlift, Russia probably lost the whole psychological campaign for the Germans. The legend of Russian might, hitherto the decisive factor in the German mind, was debunked finally. And yet the Russians didn't fight—an incredible fact if they had actually been ready.

(2) *The Dardanelles*. To control, or to have free transit through the Dardanelles has been Russia's persistent goal for a century. Under the Romanoffs, Russia fought the wars of 1855 and 1877 primarily to win this prize. In 1940, she demanded the Dardanelles of Adolf Hitler as the price of alliance, and defied him, in the full knowledge of the horrors of invasion which were ahead, when he refused it. Certainly, a



"One thing's sure. He wasn't hiding in the refrigerator."

AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

contrast to America in this category? Russia's mechanical horsepower in 1950 was 984,000,000: America's, 6,452,000,000.

In a war which would probably be decided in the air, any marked inferiority of either nation in oil supply would doom it. Russia's deficit in oil is notorious. Best estimates show that crude oil production in Russia is now running at the rate of 750,000 barrels per day. In the United States, daily production is 6,200,000 barrels, a ratio of eight to one in our favor. Russian refining capacity is 575,000 barrels per day, compared with United States capacity of 5,400,000 barrels.

Steel production is the traditional barometer of a nation's preparedness for war. In 1951, Russian steel output was 35,502,000 tons. American output was 105,140,000 tons.

Coal production is a preparedness index. Russian coal production in 1951 was 285,000,000 tons: American production the same year 559,976,000 tons.

Rubber is an extremely important war commodity. Russia, like us, has no natural rubber but she has developed a costly synthetic rubber industry with an annual capacity of 125,000 metric tons. Against this is American domestic production of 1,211,000 tons (in 1950), 845,155 synthetic.

Uranium is a must commodity in a war fought by atom warfare. Figures on uranium are hush-hush, but Russia is limited almost entirely to the low-grade output of Czechoslovakia and Saxony, with some small sources in Siberia. The United States, on the other hand, has access to the Canada, Congo, Colorado and other major producing areas, as well as the new sources which are being developed in South Africa.

An economy is only as strong as the transportation networks which interconnect it. Russia, with two and a half times our area, had 71,790 miles of railways in 1950. American railway mileage was 396,380. Russia had 480,000 miles of surfaced roads and highways. The United States had 2,069,820.

All these American figures include only our own output. In no case have we included output of our so-called allies, which would also be available to us in most part in the event of war with the Soviets. Inclusion of such available allied goods would swell the ratios even more disproportionately against Russia.

It is not necessary to labor the point. Russia is hopelessly outclassed by the United States in every category vital to modern warfare. In some instances the disparities are so extreme as to suggest that Russia is permanently fated to the status of a second-rate power. Those who talk irresponsibly of Russia as a present threat to American survival blindly ignore these glaring facts of Russia's halting economic inferiority. The Russia of their fears is a figure, not out of statistical tables, but out of a Superman comic strip or the saga of a Paul Bunyan. As this is being written, painful point is given to these truths by the circulation by a Congressional committee of a pamphlet titled, *Soviet Schedule for War, 1955*.

But there is a sizable body of public opinion which will contend that America's peril does not lie in these facts, but in the possibility of a sneak Russian atom bomb or hydrogen bomb attack upon American cities and industries. We cannot wave aside such a possibility, although it leads us into a realm of admitted conjecture where provable facts are non-existent.

Could Russia win a war with the United States by such an unannounced terror attack?

Science fiction addicts and Captain Video cultists will say positively that she could. Chronic viewers with alarm have already conceded defeat. A soberer view of this threat, however, must seriously question whether Russia either has the long range, non-stop bombers

1970-1980

By PAUL SOUTHWICK
United Press Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, Sept. 24 —

Dr. Marek S. Korowicz, who escaped from the Communist Polish delegation at the United Nations last week, said today the Russians aim for world conquest by 1970 or 1980.

"This plan is based on the progressive destruction of the cultural, economic and political foundations of the free world," he said.

Dr. Korowicz told an extraordinary session of the House Un-American Activities Committee that everything the Soviets do is aimed at furthering that goal but "they know in Moscow that under present circumstances war is not the best and safest way to achieve their aims."

to deliver the bomb over American targets, or the stockpile to sustain the stupendous follow-up duel which would come with our counter-attack. If Russia attacked now—and it is the present we are talking about—she would unquestionably hurt America terrifically, but enough of us would survive to stage a deadly reprisal. When that second phase developed, Russia's fearful inferiority would immediately become obvious. Her only hope of crushing us would be through a one-shot operation, which could not be repeated. Without stockpiles for a second assault, she would quickly succumb to the terrific attack which our B-47s could make upon her 70 major targets, from all or most of our surrounding ring of advance air bases in England, continental Europe, Morocco, Libya, Turkey, Saudi Arabia and Iceland, or by our 4,000-mile non-stop B-36s, taking off from United States bases.

Russia, despite all her propaganda, knows with painful clearness that she is not presently prepared for sustained atom combat. This fact makes the likelihood that she will risk everything upon the A and H bombs extremely remote. And so current talk about Russian A-bombs, like the chatter about the Flying Saucers, belongs to fantasy rather



"There's no submarine down there! Now will you go to sleep!?"

AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

er than to serious political discussion. To pivot our thinking about American preparedness on such a supposition is not only unrealistic: it is downright dangerous.

That is not to say that Russian atomic power, as a long-range threat, is not nightmarishly real. Give the Kremlin another twenty years to link the incalculable resources of her Siberian and Chinese hinterlands to her atom power program and a different Russia, freed of her present dependence upon oil and coal, will confront America. Then, and not now, will we face the full horror of the atom threat. The logic of this outlook demands, as a matter of life and death, that we maintain our present wide lead over Russia, in every power field, as the central objective of our long-pull defense planning. Russia, in all of her calculations, is counting upon America to make the political blunders which will throw away this lead.

The greatest of these mistakes would be to misread our enemy. It would be to gamble our all upon war in 1954 or 1955, when the war we have to fight will not come until the Nineteen Seventies.

Our greatest present danger lies in the realm of political psychology: it lies in ourselves. The American people, superbly great in moments of high crisis, are not pitched to long sustained political efforts which call for patient restrained planning over a span of decades. There is no continuity of top leadership in our system, such as Russia possesses in her presidium. The curve of our progression is a zig-zag, not an unbroken line.

Because we are the people that we are, Russia and her well-wishers are

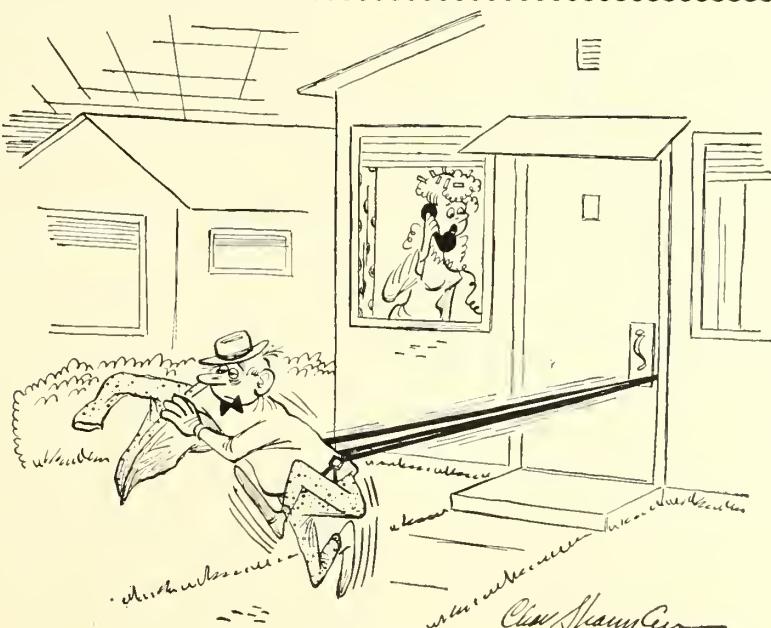
opposing us with an astute program of psychological warfare which plays diabolically upon our weaknesses. They are disbalancing us with a distracting series of Koreas, and Tibets, and Laos, and Irans. They are keeping us jittery with contrived disagreements with our British, French and other allies. They are disorienting our Asiatic policies by continuous intrigues with the "neutralists," India, Burma and Indonesia. They are keeping us on an uneasy moral defensive, in the United Nations and other world arenas, by their bogus championship of the nationalism of the Far East and the irredentism of the Arab Near East. They are even nibbling at our own hemisphere by penetrations in Guatemala and British Guiana, and by unwholesome intrigues with Peron.

At home, the Russian line is aided, wittingly or unwittingly, by the ideologies among our own people who place moony internationalist goals ahead of practical American security. It is aided by their own unextinguished Fifth Column of false-face Soviet sympathizers who deliberately sow confusion in American political thinking.

Today, America stands at the pinnacle point of her national power. She has the opportunity for total world leadership in her hands, if she can overcome the doubts and uncertainties which are in her own mind. Russia will endeavor, unceasingly, to deepen those uncertainties, and to exploit them. Her preoccupation, in the next twenty years, will be with the psychological war with America—not the physical war.

Will the United States fall into this yawning trap? We can avoid it, but not if we continue to be hand-led by our myth-makers.

THE END



"He just left for the office—but he'll be right back!"

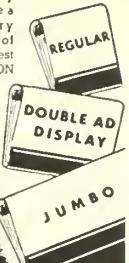
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MAGI IN BATTLE DRESS

(Continued from page 13)

to lose, with things the way they are?"

"I wish we had a compass," Grimes said with a faint anger in his voice. "If we get down there in those rice paddies where we can't see anything, we'll be following ourselves around in a circle in ten minutes. I used to have a compass. Why in hell is it that a man never has what he needs in this fouled-up war?"

Hayes asked softly, "What you want with a compass, Sarge? See that bright star over there just above the hills. We can follow that just like them guys in the Bible did on Christmas Eve."

Lieutenant Carlmark looked up and noticed it, then—a star which winked with a blue light above the ragged outlines of the mountains across the river. Hayes was right, he thought. They could guide on that. Three men, not so wise, who had gotten cut off from their company and who now wandered around on Christmas Eve.

"The star will do to guide on," he said curtly. "Let's go."

The steepness of the hills dropped gradually away to become flat land—rice paddies once but now devoted to the harvesting of crops which were more grim. The three plodded on, tiredness beginning to pluck at the marrow of their bones and hunger biting keenly at their stomachs. There was a supply road and they dodged across it and went on.

It was close to 2300 hours when they

reached the sad trees which lined the banks of the black stream and Carlmark halted them there. A shallow stream and not too wide but the water ran swiftly. Carlmark studied it for a long time, the other two lying beside him.

He said finally, "It's going to be nasty to cross. We'll ford it just the same."

Sergeant Grimes nodded to himself, chin brushing against the snow. That, he was thinking, was the way that things should be. He had misjudged this lieutenant—but then you never really knew about a man until the blue chips were down.

"You want me to go first, Lieutenant?" he asked.

"I'll lead," Carlmark said. "Follow me."

Water came to their waists; crept on up until it was armpit high. The icy current lashed at them, trying to snatch them away but they clung to each other and when one faltered the others helped him. Then the water began to get more shallow and presently they were across and shivering on the far bank.

They stumbled across faintly rising ground for a half mile and then a few shadowy buildings lay in a little hollow in front of them and Carlmark turned that way. A deserted farmhouse, he thought. No lights showed. Nothing moved there. Perhaps they could make a very small fire there; warm themselves for the space of a few minutes and drive

back that cold which was becoming a lethal thing as the wind bit at their wet clothes.

Sergeant Grimes was thinking the same thing. "Goin' to try it, Lieutenant?" he asked softly.

Carlmark nodded. "We try it."

They moved on until they were close enough to make out details. One big building; two sheds. They would go into the big one, Carlmark decided—then stiffened as a thin wail reached his ears. It was followed by Chinese jabber and Carlmark swore.

"Well, there goes that idea," Sergeant Grimes mumbled sourly. "The damn place is full of Chinks!"

A dark figure burst suddenly from the doorway of the house and a burst of burp gun fire followed, punctuated by shrill, foreign laughter. A man came running—zigzagging toward where the Americans lay—and the gun fire stopped but the laughter went on as he stumbled and fell. He was a dozen yards from Carlmark and he made whimpering sounds in the snow. A dry sound which rasped Carlmark's nerves.

He whispered, "Cover me," and wormed his way to where the man huddled. A Korean, he sensed rather than saw. South Korean, probably, for the Chinese had been firing at him.

Carlmark asked, "You hurt, Mac?" and saw the man lift his head. The starlight was dim but there was enough of it to show him the swift relief which flowed over the man's brown face.

"Americans?" the other asked softly.

"Americans, Mac," Carlmark told him; asked again, "You hurt?"

"I am not hurt," the Korean said in his soft voice. "It is my wife, American sir. I have prayed so hard that you would come."

Sergeant Grimes and Hayes were crawling up now, a fold in the ground screening them from the view of the house. Grimes began, "What the hell . . ." but Carlmark stopped him with a curt gesture.

"Go on," he said to the Korean. "What about your wife?"

"She is in there, American sirs. I am so glad that you have come . . . the Chinese are there, too, and they are not good to her. You will stop them please? For her time is almost upon her."

For a moment everything was quiet except for the sound of the breathing of the four men. Then Grimes said softly, "Good God! He means that his wife's about to have a baby, and those damned Chinks . . ."

Lieutenant Carlmark thought suddenly of Cathy and little Cathy. Then, without really knowing what he was



"Why, yes—my boss keeps me on the run, too."

AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

doing, he got to his feet and started across the snow, his carbine held in front of him like a spear. Hayes lunged up and followed, his BAR ready; Grimes moved a little to the left for flanking fire . . .

. . . It was over quickly. The Chinese inside the house were careless and the first burst of the carbine's fire knocked two of them down and the rest fled with the BAR's bullets following them and finding them and leaving them crumpled in the snow. But, before they had



"A date? But you're only fif-six-sev-eighteen. . . . Good Heavens! When did you grow up?"
AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

gone, one of them had kicked over the charcoal brazier and the fire had mounted swiftly through the dry timbers of the house and it blazed up with the evil swiftness of a torch.

They carried the small woman, moaning softly with pain, into one of the sheds—a place stale with the smell of animals long gone—and they laid her on a pile of straw. Her husband made a light and knelt beside her and his eyes were dark with gratitude as he looked up across his shoulder at the three who watched.

"I thank you, American sirs," he said. "I thank you so very much. So very much."

Lieutenant Carlmark jerked his head, then, and the other two followed him out into the starlight again. The burning building, already falling into embers, threw a red glow across the snow and Carlmark studied that for a moment, his thoughts far away. Back in Evanston. And still farther away than that. Back to another place where men had once followed a star. . . .

He said finally, "We'll stay here awhile," and noted absently that the snow had started again. "We've lost our star now, anyway."

It was in the blackest hour before morning—that ghostly hour when life is at its lowest ebb—that the small South Korean came to tell them of the new life that had arrived. The three Americans were oddly embarrassed. There was nothing to say. Nothing to do. Gladness, such as that in the little brown man's face, was something that shouldn't be brought naked out for all to see.

"It is the small boy, American sirs," he said. "I thank you so much. My wife thanks you so much. Will you come and see?"

Carlmark was hesitating and then a strange voice called sharply out of the darkness ahead, "Somebody there by that shed, sarge! Shall I give 'em a burst?"

American voices and Carlmark yelled urgently, "Hold it up! For God's sake, hold it up! We're Americans!"

And then, presently, a patrol came in out of the darkness—a big patrol—and Carlmark felt life run through his veins strong and fine again and everything was all right. A probing patrol from the outfit which had been on the left of Easy Company. They were safe again now and it was Christmas Day. A fine . . . a lovely Christmas Day!

They went back, taking the Korean—and taking his wife with the small one on the rude litter beside her, for the medics would know what to do about them. And, before they started, Private Hayes reached a finger down and touched the baby's cheek and then laid a small object beside the woman, glancing quickly around to see if the others had noticed. Then he joined Sergeant Grimes and the rest of the patrol and they started back toward the American lines and safety.

After a while Hayes said thoughtfully, "It's kind of funny about that star, ain't it, Sarge?"

"What's funny?"

"Oh, about it leadin' us to that gook and us gettin' back okay and all. Sort of like them guys in Jerusalem or wherever it was."

Sergeant Grimes grunted skeptically but, deep in his mind, he knew what Hayes meant. It awed him a little, "Maybe," he said in a noncommittal voice. "Give me a cigaret. Nobody can see us smoking in this damn snow."

"I ain't got any," Hayes answered softly. "There was only two left in my pack. I gave 'em to the baby."

Sergeant Grimes snorted. "Joseph wept!" he said in a disgusted voice. "A kid that age can't smoke."

"I know," Hayes told him, thoughtful still. "I didn't have nothing else, though, and in the story the three wise men brought presents. I just figured—oh, hell! Figure it out for yourself!"

"I guess I already have," Sergeant Grimes said.

THE END

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BASKETBALL HASN'T LEARNED ITS LESSON

(Continued from page 21)

gan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota) by Professor Ralph W. Aigler of the University of Michigan stated: "A not uncommon opinion is that conditions in intercollegiate athletics, particularly in recruiting and subsidizing, the twin areas of the most outstanding abuses, have been growing worse rather than better. A view frequently expressed is that fewer and fewer young men of athletic promise are selecting their college without regard to pressures and financial returns. More and more of those young men in interviewing college administrators and staff members want to know, 'What is the deal?'"

It's common knowledge around many of the campuses of our land that "the deal" in many instances is a very attractive and lucrative one. The story plot is the same as before 1951—the only changes have been in the cast.

One conference that has taken definite steps to correct the evils associated with the 1951 scandal is the Eastern College Athletic Conference, which is second in membership only to its big brother, the NCAA. But, it too, like its frère, has been handicapped by the lack of "teeth" in enforcing its official pronouncements. Some of its 98 member colleges and universities circumvent rulings or are lax on violations with the same disregard as perpetrators in other parts of the country.

For example. In May 1951, the ECAC passed a regulation banning collegiate basketball players under its jurisdiction from competing at any time in or for

leagues and teams which represent industry or hotels. Also banned were intramurals, exhibitions and other organized play by athletes who were still eligible for collegiate court competition. This was a direct slap at the famous summer resort or "borscht circuit" basketball in New York State's Catskill Mountains, tabbed as one of the evils leading to the bribery of players.

What has been the net result? Evasion and soft treatment of violators. A well-known New York sports columnist reported the following this past summer: "Owners in the Catskill area are tired of the ECAC ban, which has deprived eastern college boys from participating in the mountains, and are particularly annoyed over the fact that ECAC players are performing in areas other than the Catskills and are getting away with it because the areas involved are not scrutinized for violators as closely.

"It is an open secret for example, that players are performing in a city along the eastern seabord on a regular basis without any policing effort made by the ECAC to curb this violation of its ban on outside basketball."

The soft treatment for detected violators of the regulation occurred in the case of All-American Larry Hennessey of Villanova two years ago. Following the close of the regular collegiate season, Hennessey played under an assumed name in a Church tournament in a city bordering New York. He thereby not only broke the ECAC rule but the foremost rule of an amateur

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athlete "not to play under a false name." Punishment for the latter is automatic expulsion from amateur athletics.

The case was reported and turned over to the authorities at Villanova. The outcome? Hennessey was severely reprimanded and suspended from competing for Villanova for *HALF* of the season of 1952-53.

What is the natural effect of this evasion and soft treatment? Other eastern collegiate players, straining at the bit to play in organized basketball during the summer and off-months, will more and more attempt to "get away with it." Thus, ineffectively enforced, another well-meaning regulation becomes but mere words on a paper.

The emergence of little Rio Grande College in Ohio from basketball obscurity to national prominence last season based on the spectacular scoring feats of its freshman giant, Clarence (Bevo) Francis, is another indication that the sport's belt, never really tightened, is becoming looser and looser.



"Well, now I'm asking you to stop repairing it and buy me a new one!"

AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

Francis was admitted to Rio Grande in the fall of 1952 without the insignificant item of a high school diploma or even enough credits for one. Midway through the basketball season, Bevo received his high school diploma when he was actually a second term college freshman.

But the most amazing part of the Francis and Rio Grande story is not so much the entrance shenanigans that took place but the acceptance of the 1952-53 team and its high school-freshman college star by other colleges and sports-writers. Some quintets stumbled over themselves in an effort to schedule the small Ohio institution. At the end of the Rio Grande season, there was even talk of Francis and his aides being invited to the famous National Invitation Tournament in Madison Square Garden.

Completely forgotten, is that Rio Grande competed against teams that belonged to the NCAA and other conferences which have a rule stating athletic eligibility should be denied to any student who *does not* meet the published academic requirements for admission. This rule was conveniently ignored by those institutions of higher learning who hopped on the Rio Grande bandwagon.

The ruling is still being "overlooked" as the Rio Grande's 1953-54 schedule shows. It lists such NCAA members as Adelphi College of Long Island to be played in Madison Square Garden.

These are but a handful of incidents and examples of the continued downward trend of the basketball roller coaster. The brakes were temporarily applied in 1951 but the upward ascent has never really taken place. All of the evil symptoms attributed to the game two years ago can be reaffirmed today despite the protestations of the NCAA, the Conferences and basketball officials in general. An editorial in *The New York Times* in February of 1951 is just as pungently true now:

"Proselytizing of good players; the soft campus job for the star who can produce on the court; the building-up by dubious means of a 'name' team (or player) for the aggrandizement of the college; the unearned passing mark on the report card; the glorification of a game and the devaluation of principle—these are the crimes that finally beget crime."

Is basketball heading for another scandal? Could be. Perhaps not of the bribery type but, if certain conditions continue to prevail, it's headed down the same pike. The diagnosed evils of 1951—pressure to win, commercialism, recruitment and subsidization—are still with us.

What's the answer? Certainly not the abolition of basketball or some of the

other crackpot ideas spouted back in 1951. Intercollegiate basketball basically is a wholesome and highly entertaining sport that provides plenty of enjoyment for players and spectators alike. And it's as American as baseball or the Fourth of July.

The solution lies with the college or the university. This fact was brought out two years ago by many people and accordingly, some rules and recommendations were made which sought to guide the institutions along the right path. But unfortunately, some institutions don't think or act like others and



"Guess what, Minnie? My old flame, Carrie Nelson, is the new payroll clerk at the plant."

AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

the result has been outright violation or as in some unexposed cases, secret disregard.

Though perhaps they won't admit it, the biggest problem for such athletic bodies as the NCAA, the ECAC and other organized groups, is the strict enforcement of these rules by the institutions themselves. It is here, in the matter of institutional control, where these bodies flounder and it is here where the strongest measures should be taken through a strong enforcement agent or agency.

However, it is at this point that the colleges and universities are their tenderest. Whenever the mention of a national athletic enforcement agent or agency is made, the institutions cry "Foul!" It is their belief that this usurps their power or implies that they "can't clean their own house."

Nonsense. Most of the colleges and universities of our land are members of an accrediting agency which periodically checks their records for academic and admission procedures and

(Continued on page 59)

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THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE • DECEMBER, 1953 • 57

(Continued from page 4)

"Take a company like Western Electric, which has a firm and long-standing policy of arbitrary retirement at age 65. There are just no exceptions. But this is just another example of the old saying that it is an ill wind which blows no good. Nearby in Illinois is the Automatic Electric Company, a smaller concern manufacturing telephonic equipment, which has an equally firmly established policy of hiring recently separated W.E. over-age personnel on five-year contracts and frequently at more money." Where your writer got his information I cannot imagine, but the fact is that our Company does not now, and never did have, any such policy. Since none of our own employees are ever accorded the privileges referred to in the statement about "W.E. over-age personnel," you can imagine the turmoil which your article can create in our organization, to say nothing of Western Electric.

H. F. Lello

Vice President and General Manager
Automatic Electric Company
Chicago

▼ We regret the publication of this erroneous statement and any difficulties it may have caused the Automatic Electric Company and Western Electric.

Editors

NO MESSAGE GETS THROUGH

Sir: I know that there are those even in our membership to whom the appalling record (of subversion) seems to carry no message, for occasionally letters from such people are in the magazine. But it has occurred to me that there might be just one decent turn to come out of the Korean affair. Surely those Americans returning

from communist prison camps ought to see how right the Legion has been. They may comprise a body of men that will add a new force.

R. W. Clark
Cleveland

THE FLAG WENT BY

Sir: On page 34 of your October issue there is a picture showing a color guard passing a group beside a truck. Close inspection will reveal only two of the group saluting. A gross bit of disrespect, I would say.

G. F. Smith
Danville, Ill.

AFTER THE PIGMIES

Sir: In almost every issue of *The American Legion Magazine* I find a letter revealing another inane effort to smear or discredit Senator Joseph R. McCarthy. I am proud to be among those who feel that Joe McCarthy is one of the greatest living Americans. His name will live in history as an outstanding patriot long after the pygmies who torment him are forgotten.

Carl T. Richardson
Kirkland, Wash.

THEY PUT ON THE HEAT

Sir: Concerning the fanfare and fireworks about Sen. McCarthy — I am a World War 1 & 2 vet. I spent nearly 40 months in a Jap prison camp in the Philippines. Only those who have put in as much time, or any time, in a concentration camp realize the capacity of our enemies to put on the heat. Today we are in a war with an equally ruthless enemy. There is no depravity which the enemy would not undertake if he felt he could get away with it to attain victory over us. Senator McCarthy is oppressive only to those

who fail to look at the present situation in its true light.

S. S. Schier
Fall Brook, Calif.

TICKLES 'EM PINK

Sir: One thing I've learned in more than twenty years of fighting communism is that the real reds are delighted when Legionnaires like Charles Hayward (and others who share his views) urge the Legion to "put its time and energy into opposing socialism as such." They know that it takes the edge off our real attack and they're tickled pink if they can get us to scatter our fire. They also know that it causes many genuinely patriotic Americans to distrust our main effort. Let's don't get mixed up. Communism is a dangerous conspiracy, which should be outlawed. Socialism is the doctrine of a legitimate political party (with which incidentally I have no sympathy whatever) that seeks to carry out its program in true American fashion by winning elections. We should respect men like Norman Thomas, even if we don't agree with them.

Lowell M. Limpus
Orlando, Fla.

NOMINATION

Sir: In the September issue one J. L. Matherly referred to Sen. Joe McCarthy's supporters as stupid peasants. He also expressed a wish that his name be added to a certain list. As one of the "stupid peasants" referred to by Matherly, I strongly urge that such a list be produced and that his name be added to such as Alger Hiss, the Rosenbergs and other weird intellectuals.

George A. Novitske
Oshkosh, Wisc.

IZVESTIA COVERS THE NATIONAL CONVENTION

In our October issue we presented a Report from St. Louis, describing the National Convention. This is another report of the Convention, as translated from the Russian newspaper *Izvestia*, September 10. It is condensed, but the fine Kremlin flavor has been retained.

A convention of The American Legion took place recently in St. Louis. Thirty-five thousand members of this fascist mob listened to tens of speeches and adopted many resolutions . . . fanning war hysteria in the U.S.A. and heightening the pogrom-like activities of American reaction.

The American Legion was founded during the years of the first World War, and its organizers set before themselves the task of putting into the hands of magnates of great capital yet another weapon in their fight against the working class, progressive individuals and organizations. The Legion assumed the role of watch dog of Wall Street.

Legionnaires don't stop at the rough-

est violence against the democratic forces of the American people. Thousands of Legionnaires ride around the country and terrorize the population. The American Legion made its constant business the breaking up of meetings, raids on the premises of democratic organizations and mobbing of people who came out in favor of peace and democratic rights. To crush strikes, the Legion sends to factories detachments of goons who, in the words of one New York newspaper, break open with clubs the skulls of the American workers.

The American Legion carries on its pogrom-like activity in closest contact with the FBI and the notorious committee for investigation of "anti-American" activity. The Legion's Americanism Committee set up a vast card index where they put the names of all progressively-minded Americans. In order to gather (such) information the Americanism Committee has a network of agents throughout the country. All material gathered becomes the property of the FBI.

Feeling itself safely under the protection of the Washington authorities the fascist fellows of The American Legion carry on criminal propaganda for a new world war and on an even-greater scale they organize fascist lawlessness.

The convention of The American Legion this year was no exception in this regard. Its rostrum was used for the basest insinuations against the camp of peace and for praising the policies of imperialist aggression in the U.S.A. Before the fascist mob appeared Secretary of State John Foster Dulles who called for broadening the aggressive action of the U.S.A. in Asia. U.S. Vice President Nixon and Minister of Defense Wilson greeted the band of ruthless robbers.

Honest, freedom-loving Americans hate and despise fascism and its shock brigade—The American Legion. Therefore ever more frequently and ever louder are heard the voices which resolutely condemn the criminal actions of the Legion and its Washington protectors.

(Continued from page 57)
requirements. Why can't the same set-up apply to the institutions' athletic departments?

Although he is not exactly the prototype of all that is good and wonderful in the intercollegiate athletic world, Phog Allen, Kansas U.'s publicity-minded basketball coach, came up with an excellent suggestion along about March 1951. He proposed that basketball have a national commissioner (of the stature of a J. Edgar Hoover) whose duty it would be to stop proselytizing in college ranks and force compliance with the rules. It would be within his power, the Phog bellowed, to fire coaches and athletic directors where and when needed. Phog's suggestion was laughed at by basketball people and was abruptly labeled as "absurd."

But is it absurd? Why not a commissioner or commission for basketball? Other amateur sports such as swimming, tennis, golf, etc., support regulatory bodies that have the power to go into the records of individuals for rules violations.

Would it be unwieldy to administer? Not at all. The commissioner or commission (whichever is adopted) would have one agent (having no employment connection with any college) in each of the eight districts of the NCAA. These agents would be the leg-men for the main body—gathering information and conducting investigations at the scene of violations or uncovering wrong-doings either themselves or from reports of members of the district. The findings then would be forwarded to headquarters for action.

Given the proper power and strong-

ly administered, what would be the effects of such an authority? College administrators would take more interest in the policies of their athletic departments; athletic directors and coaches would think twice before employing any underneath-the-table methods because of the dire consequences personally; the high school athlete would be less demanding because the illegal subsidization offers would not be forthcoming, due to closer college scrutiny; alumni would become less aggressive (financially and physically) in athletic recruitment due to the publicizing of names responsible for the violation; admissions departments of institutions wouldn't cooperate so readily with the forging of admission credits by athletic departments; and finally, fans would be witnessing honest basketball played by teams with athletes who selected colleges on academic and athletic reputation rather than by what they received for entering.

This does not imply that this method is the final cure for all of basketball's problems. There would be much bickering, criticism and frustration at first—there always is in the initial steps of organization—but, once conquered, the foundation will have been laid and the tottering structure of intercollegiate basketball, topheavy from scandalous conduct, fiery attacks and rule-enforcement laxity, will once more be firm at its base.

There's nothing wrong with growing "big" so long as you don't try to keep wearing the same clothes in the process. Then you start looking ridiculous. When collegiate basketball realizes this it will have learned its lesson. THE END

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TURKEY — AN ALLY WE CAN TRUST

(Continued from page 23)

would soon be able to establish bases on the Aegean. Our policy makers realized that Turkey and Greece were a basic part of the free world's wall of defense against Soviet aggression. Hence the Truman Doctrine of military and economic aid to Turkey and Greece. In this case our policies were successful.

Today, Turkey and Greece are members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Each has a strong military force. Yugoslavia, once in a virtual state of war with Greece and a base of communist operations against the Hellenes, is now aligned with Turkey and Greece in the Balkan Entente. American help to Turkey and Greece was influential in erecting this "solid citadel of peace" on NATO's right flank. But the major share of the credit goes to the Turks. Had they not stood up to the Soviets back in the dark days from 1941 to 1947, NATO would today have no southern bastion. Indeed, it may even be doubted that there would be any continental European line of defense at all against Soviet imperialism. The Turkish role was that important.

In fact, important is a word that, from the dawn of history, has characterized the land that is now the Turkish Republic. Here are Paul's Tarsus, Helen's Troy and Noah's Mount Ararat. This was the center of Hittite culture, Graeco-Roman civilization and the Ottoman Empire's world sway. Near practice bombing runs of Turkey's powerful Thunderjets flows ancient history's venerable Tigris.

The Turkish people, descendants of tribes driven from Central Asia by the

Mongols, came to Asia Minor seven centuries ago. Toward the end of the 13th century their leader Osman founded the Ottoman Empire, which became one of the world's great powers and lasted till the close of World War I. During the height of its dominance this Islamic empire extended deep into what is now southern Russia, into Central Europe as far as Austria, along North Africa into Algeria. Except for tiny Montenegro, the Turks held all of the Balkans. To the south they controlled what is now Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Israel, Trans-Jordan and northern Arabia. At one time Turkish armies fought their way to Lublin, in central Poland, and near the close of the 17th century they besieged Vienna. It took an alliance of Austria, Venice, the Vatican, Malta, Tuscany, Poland and Russia to hold the conquering Turks in check.

The Ottoman Empire was not only a fabulous military power, however, but, during its prime, had an advanced civilization and perhaps the best administrative system in the world of that era. Suleiman, renowned in the Western world as "the Magnificent," was honored by the Turks as "the Law-Giver." Turkish historians maintain that, at a time when Christendom still believed disease to be caused by evil spirits, Turkish doctors had discovered smallpox vaccine.

By the close of the 19th century, the Ottoman Empire had lost much of its former territory, its civil service had become corrupt, its attitude toward the people contemptuous. Despite reform movements the empire had gone so far

into decline that it could not survive defeat in World War I. Ambitious neighboring powers saw a chance to gain territory at the expense of the prostrate country. In 1922, Greek armies were deep inside Anatolia; Constantinople was occupied by British, French and Italian forces. Mussolini, about to come to power in Italy, cast an ominous eye on a substantial chunk of Turkish territory.

Then came the great, the amazing, renaissance. Under their George Washington, Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, the Turks drove the Greek armies out of Anatolia. Through diplomatic negotiations they succeeded in evacuating the occupation forces from Constantinople. By drastic reforms (best symbolized to Americans in the banning of the colorful red fez), Ataturk reorganized all branches of the government, education and the Turkish way of life. He turned his country's face away from the past and toward the future. It is on the basis of his strong, Western-minded administration that today's progressive republic was built.

For those of us who, like the writer, were in Turkey in 1923, the year Ataturk began to build his new nation on the ruins of defeat, the little Straits republic is a modern miracle. Tractor and airplane are at home there today. Intelligently and zealously Turkey is forging ahead—building roads, modernizing farming methods, improving marketing and distribution facilities, expanding industry, raising health levels, upgrading the standard of living. She has modern airports and excellent schools and colleges. There is political stability and high public morale. Turkey, moreover, has enough public spirit left over to act as a good neighbor to the nations around her.

Turkey today is enjoying an economic boom and it couldn't happen to a worthier people. Here is one place where every American dollar of aid has been put to good use. It has gone into improvement of the national economy and national defense. The Turks welcome our know-how. They are eager to have American help in learning to get the most out of their soil and developing their mineral resources. A few months ago Turkey invited American capital to bring her oil deposits into production. Besides oil, the Turks have coal, lignite, iron, salt, chrome and copper. Their chrome production is one of the four largest in the world. There are smaller deposits of mercury, manganese, asbestos, sulphur, emery and antimony.

But Turkey is primarily an agricultural country. Four-fifths of the people live in rural areas. Seventy-five percent



"There! Now lay off the peanuts for a while!"

AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

of the population are peasants and they largely own the land they work. Wheat, cotton and, of course, tobacco are the chief export crops. Other farm products are oats, barley, rye, corn, rice, millet, the citrus fruits, wool, cheese, honey, olives, olive oil, figs and nuts. Angora mohair comes from the famous Turkish goats. In the past the peasants could not get their surplus from their inaccessible farms to market. The result, for the proud and industrious farmers, was poverty. Thanks to Turkish initiative and American help a great network of highways and village roads is being constructed that not only promotes economic intercourse between producer and markets but serves the interests of national defense. And, through a remarkable system of Village Institutes, the ablest students from rural districts are being trained to spread modernization of farming methods and living standards.

Because Turkey is a land of villages, cosmopolitan Istanbul and bustling, modern Ankara are not typical of the country. It is the average village, located a long distance from a big city, which produces most of the Turkish fighting men. As any Korean veteran who fought beside the Turkish Brigade can tell you, these fellows are tough. They are used to rugged country, harsh climate and hard living conditions. Even during the declining days of the Ottoman Empire, when his incompetent officers stole the money intended for his clothing and food, and he suffered cold and hunger, the Turkish soldier fought valiantly.

During World War I in France, I talked with Anzaes who had fought the Turks on the bloody, sun-baked shores of Gallipoli. For a time, due to scarcity of water, the Anzaes were rationed to

one cup a day. The Turkish troops often threw leather bags of water across the trenches to their thirsty enemies. As for the sons and grandsons of those chivalrous troops, it is reported that, when 1800 Korean replacements were about to embark from Turkey, they were kept in a port stockade. The idea was to head off the rest of some 30,000 eager volunteers from stowing away on the transport.

The Turkish soldier is led by crack officers today. We have General Matthew Ridgway's word for it that there is "fine leadership throughout all ranks of the Turkish army." The officers and non-coms are smartly dressed; the soldiers wear the simplest of uniforms. For the first year in the army the soldier receives ten cents a month, the second year twenty cents. His food is frugal; occasionally he receives a cigarette ration. The Turkish soldier has a tremendous admiration for modern arms and uses them intelligently. According to American airmen, rivalry between Turkish jet fighter trainee groups "frequently borders on mayhem." From the time he is mustered into the army, the young Turk knows that one day he may be called on to defend his country against the traditional Russian foe. An intensely patriotic lad, he works and studies conscientiously to be ready.

Perhaps one reason why the Turkish soldier's morale is so high is his confidence in his leaders, both military and civilian. While the Turks are nationalistic, there is no tone of truculence in their diplomacy. They have gone all-out in working for international cooperation. Turkey belongs to the United Nations, the Council of Europe and, as has been pointed out, the Balkan Entente and NATO. She is active in ten

(Continued on page 63)



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(Continued from page 61)

of the specialized agencies of the United Nations. Even more significant, her representatives consistently oppose appeasement of the USSR and Red China.

Turkey took a leading part in bringing together the former enemies, Greece and Yugoslavia, and in creating the Balkan Entente. Astute Turkish diplomacy has striven hard to better the relations between Italy and Yugoslavia. The Turks would like to see the Balkan Entente given greater defensive depth through Italian membership. Furthermore, the Turks realize that Ital-Yugoslav quarrels lessen the fighting potential of both nations in the face of a possible Soviet drive through the Ljubljana Gap toward Italy and Valley of the Po. The Turks refuse to be discouraged by the historic difficulties of promoting a Rome-Belgrade understanding. Despite setbacks, they keep pressing on toward the goal of greater cooperation among the nations of the free world.

At the same time the realistic Turks keep it in mind that the stronger their armed might, the more effective their diplomatic relations with the Russians will be. They have at least eighteen divisions under arms, growing naval and air power, and they allocate over twenty-seven per cent of the national budget to defense. They know that the "solid citadel of peace" which they engineered on NATO's right flank has done more than deter Soviet attack on Turkey and Greece. It has undoubtedly made the Kremlin leaders realize that thirty strong Turko-Greek fighting divisions massed on Russia's left flank makes aggression against Western Europe more of a gamble.

It is probably in the eastern Mediterranean today that the West is stronger *vis-à-vis* the Soviet Union than anywhere else in the world. There the Turkish and Greek forces are backed up by the naval and air power of the hard-hitting United States Sixth Fleet. From its carriers, bombers with fighter escort can reach Russia's vital Baku oil fields, the Soviet Black Sea bases and some important industrial centers of the southern USSR.

When, this past summer, Ankara received Kremlin protests regarding the visits of American and British fleets to Istanbul, Turkish nerves—and nerves—were equal to the occasion. Moscow's complaint, ran the sharp reply, "could be considered some sort of intervention."

Be glad that the Turks are on our

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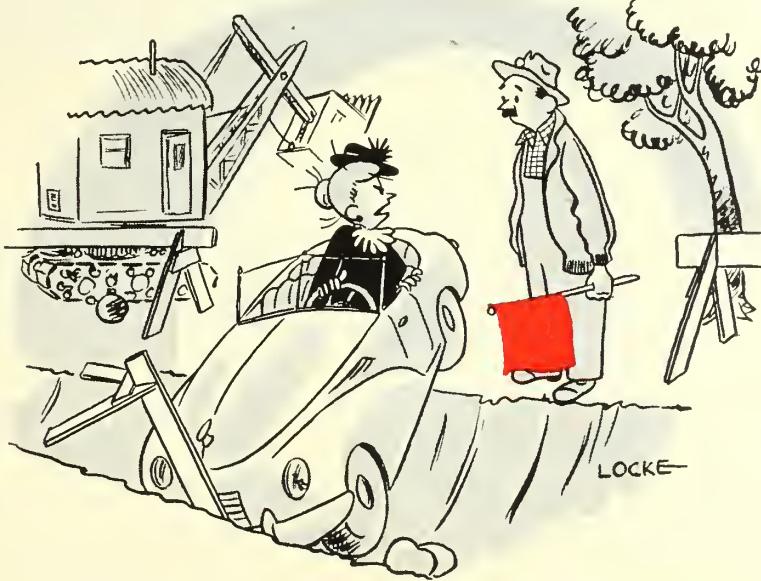
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side. In these days of appeasement, defeatism and double-crossing, Turks and Americans need each other. They are natural partners. They speak the same language, that of democratic ideals. Each holds the other in high respect. As we learned in Korea, the Turk is a good friend in a fight—the more so because he loves his country. In Turkey we have an ally we can depend on. In fighting his own battles, the Turk is also fighting ours.

THE END



"Of course I saw you wave your flag. I thought you were a communist!"

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Help?

*The speech was so dull
That somebody snored
And a voice from the rear
Shouted, "Man overbored."*
MAURICE SEITTER

Woe Is Me

The henpecked plumber had received an emergency call from the Jones residence.

In answer to his ring, both Jones and his wife met him at the door.

Jones was a very methodical man, so he at once said to the plumber, "Now before you go up to the bathroom, I wish to acquaint you with my trouble."

The plumber pulled off his cap, blushed shyly, and holding out his hand to Mrs. Jones, said, "Pleased to meet yer, ma'am."

N. A. CARL

Political Surgery

*If our President has his way, our country
will have its faith lifted.*

MARY ALKUS



"Why get so excited? It's only water — and water doesn't cost anything."

There's A Limit

*Designers of fashions have gone to extremes,
Trying to capture the masculine stare.
But soon they'll come up with a style
that'll be
More than a lady can bare!*

PHIL LEEMING

And Vice Versa

*You can judge a man by the company he
keeps, and by the same token you can judge
a company by the men it keeps.*

J. O. JEWETT

Pro and Con

A famous lawyer was examining a witness in court one day and he had reason to suspect deliberate perjury. At length, becoming impatient, he asked the witness very impressively:

"Do you know the nature of an oath, sir?"

"I do," replied the witness.



PARTING SHOTS



"And are you not aware, sir, that you are commanded in the Bible not to bear false witness against thy neighbor?" asked the lawyer.

"I know that," was the reply, "and I'm not bearing false witness against him, I'm bearing false witness for him!"

DAN BENNETT

Misdeal

*Whenever I play Bridge
I find — and it's no lable —
Some toxic, noxious misnace
Infesting my table.
So this is the problem
That makes my forehead ridge;
Does Bridge poison people
Or people poison Bridge?*

BERTON BRALEY

Legal Styxie

A young man, who was not remarkable for either his aptitude or energy, got married and went to work in a factory owned by the bride's father. The starting salary

was rather meager, and the boss, who had scant admiration for his son-in-law, seemed in no hurry to increase it. The young couple talked it over and decided something must be done. The wife, who was more aggressive than her husband, put her foot down and insisted he immediately demand a raise. Accordingly, the son-in-law, his shoulders squared, his jaw set with grim resolve, showed up in the boss's office one morning to speak his piece.

"I've been with the company three months now, Mr. Jamieson," he said in a voice that quavered a little, "and I don't think the fact that I'm your son-in-law is any reason you should not pay me what I'm worth."

The father-in-law glared at him in silence a moment, then answered: "You're absolutely right. I'd like nothing better than to pay you what you're worth. Unfortunately, the minimum wage law won't allow it."

D. O. FLYNN

Hot Dough

*If you have money to burn, you can take
it with you.*

JOSEPH MARTURANO

A Good Sport

Obviously upset, a young wife called up a friend and told her that she and her husband had quarreled and that he'd left her.

"Now don't worry too much about it," the friend told her soothingly. "He's done that before, you know."

"I know," said the wife, her voice breaking. "But this time he took the bowling ball."

HAROLD HELFER

Daggers

*At bridge, whenever it's my mistake
By my darling's withering glance, I can see
What a perfectly charming couple we'd
make*

If it weren't for me!

THOMAS USK

Of Tracks

Many footprints on the sands of time are made by heels.

A. A. SCHILLING



"They had you completely fooled on that play, Hollister!"

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